

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 426.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.]

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver an Address to Children, THIS EVENING, in ST. MARTIN'S HALL, Long-acre. Doors open at half-past 5. Chair to be taken at half-past 6.

The body of the Hall will be reserved for Children of the Bands of Hope, who will be admitted by ticket (free), to be had of their Superintendents. Admission to other parts of the Hall, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. each; children, with their parents, half-price.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver an Oration in EXETER HALL, Strand, on THURSDAY, 29th December. Doors open at 7. Chair taken at 8 o'clock precisely. Admission, 6d. each. Reserved Seats, 1s., to be had at 337, Strand; or in the Hall on the evenings of the Lectures.

London Temperance League Office, 337, Strand.

TO-MORROW EVENING a LECTURE

on the PROGRESSIVE TENDENCIES OF THE PRESENT AGE will be delivered by **HENRY VINCENT, Esq.**, during his short stay in London, at the ROYAL BRITISH INSTITUTION, COWPER-STREET, CITY-ROAD, on behalf of the Funds of the Sabbath and Ragged School Benevolent Society. T. M. CHALLIS, Esq., will preside.

Doors open at half-past Seven; Chair taken at quarter-past Eight.

SYLLABUS:—Influence of Industry, the Press, Railways, Public Meetings, and Free Commerce upon our Character as a People; the Moral and Intellectual Condition of our People; our Outcast Population; the Mental and Moral Elevation of the Masses, the Great Want of our Age.

Ladies are respectfully invited to attend.

Admission, Sixpence. Reserved Seats, One Shilling.

Tickets may be obtained of Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row; Mr. Biggs, 7, Colles-terrace, Barnsbury-road, Islington; Mr. H. Flear, 1, Soley-terrace, Percy-circus; G. Hewkley, Esq., Stock Exchange, treasurer; Mr. Mason, chemist, 1, 2, Old-street, City-road; Mr. Judd, printer, Calthorpe-place, Gray's-inn-road; and of the Honorary Secretaries, THOMAS BOSHER, 32, Tysoe-street, Clerkenwell. JOSIAH LEAVER, 11, Goswell-road.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Constituency was held at the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, London, on Wednesday, December 7th, 1853, for the purpose of approving a Trust Deed, and appointing Trustees for the Homerton College Property, now the Training Institution of the Board. Samuel Morley, Esq., presided. There were also present the Revs. Dr. Massie, A. Good, W. J. Unwin, W. Tyler, Dr. Campbell, J. Corbin, J. C. Harrison, J. E. Ashby, T. James; Messrs. W. Rutt, J. Pittman, H. Child, S. Underhill, W. Underhill, H. Rutt, H. Leclaire, G. Gray, J. Coventry, A. Leclaire, T. Hart, J. F. Johnson, G. Parker, T. Gardiner, W. D. Alexander, J. Peachey, S. Elbs, R. Walker, W. Walker, J. Clapham, T. T. Curwen, Jacob Unwin, G. Osborne, jun., J. Burn, T. Frith, H. Sewell, W. Butler, G. Simmons, J. G. Stapleton, S. J. Nash, John Capper, and Ebenezer Clarke.

HENRY CHILD, Esq., the Solicitor, read the draft of a Trust Deed for the Homerton College Property.

The Rev. J. C. HARRISON moved, and **SEARLE JAMES NASH, Esq.** seconded, the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:—

"That the Deed for the Homerton College Property, which has now been read, be approved, and that the same, with the surrender and assignment therein recited be respectively completed, executed, and made."

The Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL moved, and **JOHN PITMAN, Esq.** seconded the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:—

"The following gentlemen be requested to be Trustees of the Homerton College Property under the Deed which has now been read, namely, Titus Salt, Edward Baines, Ebenezer Pye Spalding, John Crossley, Joshua Wilson, David Williams, James Watts, John Morley, Samuel Morley, Henry Rutt, John Alexander, James Carter, Charles Vander Meulen, Robertson, Thomas Barnes, M.P., and Frederick Wills, Esq."

The Rev. J. CORBIN moved, and the Rev. T. JAMES seconded, the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:—

"That this meeting desires to express its great thankfulness to God and to the Friends of Voluntary and Religious Education for the completion of the purchase and adaptation of Homerton College—free from debt—as a Training Institution for Teachers, and congratulates the Board on the very satisfactory conclusion of this valuable department of its labours."

The Chairman stated that the purchase and adaptation of the College, with the erection of commodious Model Schools, had involved an outlay of £11,566 19s., and that he was happy to state that he held cheques for the payment of the small balance which had been left unpaid till the Property could be transferred to the Trustees appointed to this evening.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Samuel Morley, Esq., which he briefly acknowledged.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

THE distinctive features of this Association

are:—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

THE COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOL-MASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months; and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.

DOUGLAS ALLPORT, Secretary.
7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

MISS CHARLTON'S ESTABLISHMENT

MENT for YOUNG LADIES, Chase-side, Enfield, will RE-OPEN on Wednesday, the 18th of January.

References are kindly permitted to the following gentlemen:—J. H. Paget, Esq., Tottenham; J. Challis, Esq., M.P., Enfield; J. C. Thorowgood, Esq., Tottenham; R. Wilkinson, Esq., Tottenham Park; Rev. A. Stewart, Holloway; Rev. S. J. Smith, B.A., Enfield; and the Rev. G. Wilkinson, Enfield.

14, KING EDWARD'S ROAD, SOUTH HACKNEY.

THE MISSES SAUNDERS (late of Park

House, Mile-end) beg to inform their friends that their Pupils will re-assemble on Wednesday, Jan. 18th. Prospectuses, with references of the highest respectability, may be obtained on application as above.

EDUCATION.

OVER HALL, MIFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

MRS. ELLIS DAWSON begs to announce

that her Establishment will RE-OPEN on Thursday, the 4th of February.

Over Hall is situated in a very healthy locality, and its internal arrangements combine the comforts of Home, with the advantages of a well-conducted Finishing School.

Religious training is systematically united with intellectual culture.

Terms—Thirty and Forty Guineas per annum.

Reference is kindly permitted to the Rev. C. H. Bateman, Hopton, Miffield; Rev. B. B. Haigh, Bramham College; W. Williams, Esq., Huddersfield; T. K. Faulls, Esq., Huddersfield College; John Stancliffe, Esq., Macclesfield; and S. Dawson, Esq., Wakefield.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MRS. TODD'S ESTABLISHMENT for

YOUNG LADIES is REMOVED from SALISBURY to PERRY-HILL HOUSE, SYDENHAM. The Mansion and Grounds are extensive, elevated, easy of access, and afford every facility.

The course of Tuition—English, French, Italian, German, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Music, Drawing in all styles, &c. Objects aimed at,—the union of domestic comfort and school discipline; the highest intellectual and moral culture; qualification, by habits of thoroughness and self-reliance, for the responsibilities of life. Terms, Thirty Guineas. Full particulars and References by post.

References:—A. Pellatt, Esq., M.P.; R. Harris, Esq., late M.P., Leicester; H. Brown, Esq., M.P.; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour; Revs. F. Trevellick, S. J. Davies, J. P. Mursell, Dr. Redford, T. Thomas, Pontypool; and D. Pratt, Esq., London.

SCIENTIFIC AND COMMERCIAL

EDUCATION, 25 to 30 Guineas. No Extras. Number limited. Meals with the Principal. Separate Beds. Visiting Masters. Prospectuses of Alpha, 7, New Dorset-place, Clapham-road, near London.

EDUCATION.—Preparatory Establish-

ment for Young Gentlemen, conducted by Mrs. ATWOOD, 5, Park-lane, Croydon.

The Pupils are liberally boarded, carefully instructed, and the comforts of home combined with school discipline.

Terms, 25 Guineas per Annum, Laurence Books and other Extras included.

References are kindly permitted to the Rev. J. Steer, Croydon; Rev. E. S. Pryce, A.B., Gravesend; Rev. H. Lawrence, Lewes; Rev. J. Adey, London; J. Armstrong, Esq., M.D., Gravesend; W. H. Davison, Esq., 77, Basinghall-street; R. Cartwright, Esq., 37, Chancery-lane; W. Button, Esq., Cliffe House Academy, Lewes.

SCHOLASTIC.—The Proprietor of a

Commercial, Mathematical, and Classical School, which has been under his sole superintendence for 32 years, is desirous of obtaining an ASSISTANT and PARTNER, the latter position to be determined by trial and approval in the former. A pious young Man trained in the Borough-road School, or some establishment similarly conducted, would be preferred. One who would highly value a position which affords opportunities favourable for improvement in Classical and Mathematical learning, with a probability of becoming in a short time a Partner with the Proprietor (now 62 years of age), would find this a desirable situation.

References:—Messrs. Relfe Brothers, Booksellers, &c., 20, Aldersgate; and Mrs. Sanders, Borough-road, Southwark.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOLASTIC INSTITUTION FOR THE SONS OF MINISTERS.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the

Pupils was this year conducted by J. B. MELSON, Esq., M.D., &c., Trinity College, Cambridge; the Rev. CHARLES VINCE; GEORGE WALLIS, Esq., Head Master of the School of Design; and the Rev. FRANCIS WATTS, M.A., Theological Professor at Spring-hill College; a copy of whose Testimonials will be forwarded to any Person requesting it.

The object of this Society is to assist Ministers of limited income in the Education of their Sons.

The Sixth Rule provides:—

"That the Parents or Friends of every Boy admitted into the School shall contribute to the funds of the Institution a minimum charge of Ten Guineas per annum, payable half-yearly in advance."

The School is founded on the most liberal basis, and it contains at the present time Pupils from seven different Denominations.

The next Session will commence on January 31, 1854.

Applications for admission should be made to the Rev. T. H. Morgan, Shireland, Smethwick, Birmingham.

N.B.—A few Vacancies for Private Pupils.

TO GROCERS.—The Principal of a Select

School, a short distance from town, will be glad to TREAT with a respectable Grocer, upon reciprocal terms.—Address, B. C., 19, Shoreditch, London.

A YOUNG LADY, who has been liberally

educated, is desirous of meeting with an engagement, either in a pious Dissenting family, or in a school. She is competent to instruct in the usual branches of an English Education, with French, Music, and the elements of Drawing. The most respectable references can be given, both in town and country.—Address M. M., care of Rev. F. Trevellick, Baptist Mission, Moorgate-street.

WANTED, in a SCHOOL in Shropshire,

an Arithmetic and Writing MASTER. A young man desiring improvement in languages, drawing, &c., with a comfortable home, would find it a desirable situation. Apply to E. C., Post Office, Blackrock, Dublin.

WANTED Immediately, a YOUNG

MAN, to take CHARGE of a DAY SCHOOL, for a few Months. One who could preach to a small Congregation preferred.—Apply by letter, pre-paid, to A. B., Nonconformist Office.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING.—

WANTED, for a Dissenting Congregation in one of the Southern Suburbs of the Metropolis, a LEADER, fully competent to conduct the Singing, and to perform the customary duties connected therewith. Testimonials of Church membership will be required.—Apply, by letter only, to A. B., Post Office, No. 60, Moorgate-street.

WANTED, a Steady Young Man, of

active business habits, as COUNTERMAN in the Grocery and Provision Trade. The Advertiser has also a VACANCY for an APPRENTICE.—Apply to Mr. JAMES DOUGLAS, Grocer, &c., Burton-upon-Trent.

FOR SALE.—Three SHARES in the

ROYAL BRITISH BANK, on very advantageous terms. Half-year's dividend payable in February next.—Apply at the Office of this paper.

DEANE'S LONDON-BRIDGE IRONMONGERY AND FURNISHING WAREHOUSE.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1700.

DEANE'S TABLE CUTLERY has for

more than 150 years received extensive and increasing Public Patronage. The Stock, comprising IVORY, BONE, HORN, and STAG HANDLES, stands unrivalled in Extent and Variety; the Prices are the lowest, and the quality of the Steel the very best. Deane's Monument Razors, and London-bridge Straps, are preferred by the best judges to any other. Their Pen and Pocket Knives 6d. each, and upwards, and Ladies' Scissors of every description, are all of the finest quality.

ELECTRO-SILVERED DEANEAN PLATE.

This beautiful manufacture is celebrated for its peculiar purity and silvery whiteness, and, as a substitute for silver (from which it cannot, by any test, be distinguished), is unsurpassed. DEANE, DRAY, and Co., have always on SALE TABLE and DESSERT SPOONS and FORKS, in all the newest and most approved silver patterns; also, Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur-stands, Cruets, Candlesticks, Cake-baskets, and every article usually produced in silver.

IRON BEDSTEADS.

DEANE, DRAY, and Co., manufacture and supply every description of IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS and CHILDREN'S COTS; and have at all times a large stock of these articles on hand, together with Beds, Mattresses, Palliasses, &c. Priced Lists, with Drawings, sent, per post, free.

DRAWING-ROOM STOVES.

A large and handsome collection of BRIGHT STOVES for the drawing or dining-rooms, embracing all the newest designs, is always on sale, in the Stove and Fender department of DEANE, DRAY, and Co.'s Establishment. They have applied to these and other classes of register stoves patented improvements, economizing the consumption of fuel, for which the highest testimonials have been given. Deane, Dray, and Co. also invite attention to their improved COOKING STOVE, adapted for Gentlemen's Mansions and all large Establishments, with Kitchen ranges of the best construction. In FENDERS and FIRE-IRONS they are constantly introducing every novelty, at the lowest possible prices.

FAMILIES FURNISHING

may obtain (post free on application) DEANE, DRAY, and Co.'s GENERAL FURNISHING PRICED LIST, enumerating more than 500 articles, selected from the various departments of their Establishment, requisite in fitting up a family residence. The Stock includes Table Cutlery, Electro-Plate, Lamps, Paper Mache Trays, Fenders and Fire-irons, Iron Bedsteads, Britannia Metal, Tin and Japan Ware, Turnery, Brushes, Mats, &c.

DEANE, DRAY, and Co. (Opening to the Monument), London-bridge.

ESTABLISHED 1726.

CHAPLIN and LAMBERT, TALLOW

MELTERS, CANDLE MANUFACTURERS, OIL and ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, 89 and 90, LEATHER-LANE, HOLBORN, beg to suggest to their numerous friends and others who are about to lay in their Winter's stock, that every article supplied at their Establishment is of first-rate quality, and charged at the lowest remunerative price.

A List of Articles, with prices annexed, sent post free on application.

Orders with remittances promptly executed, and delivered at any of the Metropolitan Railway Stations.

C. and L. particularly recommend their TOWN TALLOW MADE CANDLES.

Price's and Palmer's Composite and Metallic Candles at manufacturer's prices.

Purchasers of C. and L.'s celebrated Stamped Soaps will have the full amount of benefit accruing from the repeal of the duty.

SUPERIOR TO COFFEE, BUT LOWER IN PRICE.

FRENCH CHOCOLATE, ONE SHILLING PER POUND, OR IN Packets, 6d., 3d., and d. each.

A preparation from the choicest Cocos of the English markets, and manufactured by the Company's much-admired process, as shown by them in full operation at the Great Exhibition of 1851, and for which the "Council" Medal was awarded.

At the present time, when many unwholesome articles are recommended as substitutes for Coffee, it may be considered a fitting opportunity to direct public attention to the fact, that Coffee itself is far inferior in nutritive qualities to Cocoa.

It is needless to insist upon this, as Chocolate, or

PROPERLY-PREPARED COCOA,

is now universally recommended by the Medical Profession, as more conducive to health than any other vegetable substance which enters into the human dietary; and the superiority of the above

ONE SHILLING FRENCH CHOCOLATE,

over raw and unprepared Cocos, may be judged of by the perfection attained in its manufacture owing to which it may be used either as

FOOD OR BEVERAGE.

PARIS CHOCOLATE COMPANY,

DISTINGUISHED BY THE PATRONAGE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

AND THE UNANIMOUS AWARD OF BOTH

"COUNCIL" AND "PRIZE" MEDALS AT THE GREAT

EXHIBITION OF 1851.

MANUFACTURERS OF BREAKFAST CHOCOLATE, BONBONS, AND FRENCH SYRUPS.

Sold Wholesale and Retail by the Principal Grocers, Confectioners, and Druggists in the Kingdom

CHOCOLATE MILLS, ISLEWORTH.

Wholesale Depot—35, PUDDING-LANE, CITY. West End Depot—221, REGENT-STREET.

Post-Office Orders, and Applications for Agencies, to be addressed to SAMUEL SANDERS, Wholesale Depot.

TEA IS GETTING DEARER.

THIS IS THEREFORE THE TIME TO BUY

PHILLIPS and COMPANY are still SELLING at OLD PRICES, although the Market Value of Tea has risen 3d. to 4d. per lb., and will be still higher. The Teas worth purchasing are—

The strong CONGOU TEA, at 3s. and 3s. 4d. per lb.

The Prime SOUCHONG TEA, at 3s. 6d. and 3s. 8d.

The best LAPSANG SOUCHONG TEA, at 4s.

The prime GUNPOWDER TEA, at 4s. and 4s. 8d.

The delicious GUNPOWDER, at 5s.

The best Pearl GUNPOWDER, at 5s. 4d.

ALL WHO PURCHASE AT THESE PRICES WILL SAVE MONEY, AS TEAS ARE GETTING DEARER.

Prime COFFEE at 1s. and 1s. 3d. per lb.

The best Mocha and the best West India Coffee, at 1s. 4d.

Teas, Coffees, and all other Goods sent carriage free, by our own vans and carts, if within eight miles; and Teas, Coffees and Spices, sent carriage free to any part of England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

PHILLIPS and COMPANY,

TEA AND COLONIAL MERCHANTS,

8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

PHILLIPS and Co.'s Price List of RAISINS, CURRANTS, IMPERIAL PLUMS, FIGS, &c., is now ready, and is sent post free, on application.

THE LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

J. R. MILLS, Esq., Treasurer.

EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., Sub-Treasurer.

Secretaries.

Rev. C. GILBERT.

Rev. THOMAS DAVIES.

This Society has now been in existence about five years. During that time it has built, or helped to build, or preserved, no fewer than thirteen places of worship. Of these seven have settled pastors and churches; two are opened for public worship but have not yet pastors or churches; and four are in process of erection, and will soon be completed. All the chapels that have been opened have been attended with encouraging and some with remarkable success. The Divine blessing has rested upon them; congregations, churches, and schools have been gathered and formed; and the glorious gospel has been faithfully proclaimed where before it was unheard.

The Committee feel that the work in which they are engaged is approved of God, and by this they are encouraged to go on. But they urgently need, and earnestly ask, the increased aid of their fellow-Christians. They have now in hand three freehold sites, upon two of which it is most desirable that chapels should be speedily erected. But they dare not proceed until their funds are enlarged.

One of these sites, and that which appears to possess the first claim, is in the new and populous district of Canonbury, Islington. In the year 1841, the population of Islington was 55,779; in 1851 it had increased to 95,154, and it is now estimated at 110,000. Thus, in less than fourteen years the population has doubled, while during that time only one new Congregational chapel has been erected.

Contributions in aid of this and other important operations in which the Society is engaged are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received by either of the treasurers or secretaries, or by any member of the Committee.

Office, Congregational Library, Blomfield-st., Finsbury.

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF MINISTERS and the Rev. ROBERT AINSLIE.

To the Secretary of the Congregational Board.

REV. SIR,—I have received the copy of the Resolution of the Committee, you were instructed to forward to me by the Congregational Board.

In the first part of it, referring to my statements in the "Defence of the Innocent," are these words: "And having compared them with the confirmed minutes of the business of the Board, unanimously agree in reporting that many of those statements are gross and calumnious misrepresentations," &c., &c. I have never before heard the accuracy but of one statement questioned, and that was by yourself in a letter you wrote to me after reading the pamphlet. It referred to the resolution said to have been passed at the Board, and recorded on page 130 of the "Defence of the Innocent." I maintain the strict accuracy of my statement. You will remember that I did so when we met a few weeks since in Fleet-street. After some conversation upon the point, you said, "Well, I know nothing about it. I was not there when it was passed: I found it in the box in Mr. Godwin's handwriting." This remark fully confirmed my suspicion as to its authorship. My accuracy, sir, would not have been impeached in your Committee if I had been there, and could have put similar questions to those I have asked on this topic at page 131.

I request a list of the "many" statements described in the resolution of your Committee, and if I cannot prove their accuracy, I will publicly retract and apologise for them.

The second part of the resolution is thus worded: "That Mr. Ainslie's recent conduct as a suspended member, in twice attending the Board without invitation, and in refusing pertinaciously on both occasions to withdraw when required to do so by the chairman, is a violation of the order and authority of the Board." The facts are these:—

First.—You sent me, by the instruction of the Board, the following notice of the meeting: "That the next regular meeting of the Board be made special; also, to consider the propriety of excluding Mr. Ainslie from the fellowship of the Board, and to take proceedings accordingly."

Second.—Dr. Campbell publicly declared at this meeting, in your presence and mine, that I had a right to be there, having received that notice from you; and that you had done wrong in sending it.

Third.—After I had sat some short time at this meeting, the Board unanimously invited me to remain; and with these facts known to the Committee, you have dared to pass and to publish the second part of the resolution as above quoted.

I have in my resignation fully vindicated my right to be present at the second meeting. I was under no "common law of suspension," and the meeting was specially convened for the appointment of a committee which related to me, as well as to Dr. Tidman.

After I had left this second meeting of the Board, the Committee, which for the sake of distinction, will be known as THE EXPULSION COMMITTEE, was appointed. I have had no notice of its appointment—no information as to how many persons were appointed—nor their names—nor their times or place of meeting—nor their object—no opportunity to prove the accuracy of my statements—nor to produce facts and documents to prove the truth of what I have published—no notice that their report would be presented to the Board—and no notice either of indictment, verdict, or expulsion. I only heard of them from the Board, when the matter was all over. Let Englishmen, let all Protestants, let the friends of civil liberty of every class, ponder this statement. It cannot be denied. By such means the report has been furnished! And on such a report it is said that I have been "expelled," and that, after my resignation had been read to the meeting. To do this the law had to be trampled upon. To guard against any sudden expulsion of a member, the law ex-

pressly says: "That no member shall be excluded but by the votes of three-fourths of the members present at a meeting specially convened." No one can pretend to say that a notice of expulsion, such as the law contemplated, was embodied in the notice of the meeting at which it is stated I was "expelled." At that meeting, the Board could have received the report in which it is recommended, "that the name of Mr. Ainslie be removed from the list of the members of the Board," and it had power to summon a special meeting to remove my name, but not without such special meeting to expel me. These things have not been done in Italy, nor even in Ireland, nor by Papists, but in Blomfield-street, by Congregational ministers in 1853. I record my protest against the injustice and illegality of the proceedings of the Committee, and, also, of the Board.

One thing only is wanted—the publication of the names of those gentlemen who could descend to be on such a committee, and to make such a report, knowing that the defendant had been ignored and excluded from defending himself. If any gentlemen did not attend who were put on the Committee, that fact should also be stated, and their names mentioned.

THE REV. DR. CAMPBELL'S JUDGMENT ON THE CONDUCT OF AN ECCLESIASTICAL BODY EXPELLING ONE OF ITS MEMBERS AFTER HE HAD SENT IN HIS RESIGNATION.

It may interest the members of the Board to read Dr. Campbell's judgment, pronounced upon an ecclesiastical body for conduct similar to that of which you have just been guilty, in expelling me after my resignation had been laid before you.

The case referred to by Dr. Campbell was that of the "Wesleyan Conference" expelling the Rev. W. L. Horton, after he had sent in his resignation. Dr. Campbell says (in an article on the "Wesleyan Conference," published in the *British Banner* of August 11th, 1852, col. 4, p. 537): "His withdrawal must not be his own voluntary act. He must be expelled in truly Popish style, and in effect with bell, book, and candle. In this matter the true Romish spirit of Methodism has come out of late years with a force and freshness for which the bulk of mankind are not prepared. The thing would be perfectly monstrous, if it were not so ridiculously childish. It is only to be looked at through the medium of common sense, or of ordinary life, that its absurdity may be fully apparent. Suppose, then, the ladyship of the land to take it into its lofty head, that it is derogatory to receive from a servant maid notice to leave; and in consequence, uniformly when Betty curtseys says, 'Please, ma'm, I wish to give notice to leave this day month,' to respond, 'You slut, you give me notice to leave: I give you notice to quit this day month. You're a worthless, impudent gipsy. You shall leave my house, and you shall have no character from me. I'll make an example of you.' Again, suppose the landlords of England, as a means of preserving their brick and mortar dignity to enter into a compact that they would in no case receive notice from tenants, but in every instance of such notice meet it with notice of a process of ejectment. What would the world of wise men say of such hair-brained folly? Would not every man of ordinary sense pronounce them a fellowship of mortals fit for Bedlam? We write this with shame and grief. We blush for religion, which is most grievously compromised by its professed friends. Men in whom the light of reason is not put out, must recoil from such a combination of cruelty and injustice, and pronounce it an impotent effusion of malignant fanaticism!"

This judgment upon the conduct of the Wesleyan Conference, so calmly and elegantly expressed and illustrated, may be read with one almost as calm upon the conduct of the Congregational Board, recorded in the *British Banner* of December 14th, 1853. Both of them are by the same author.

I have again and again defended Dr. Campbell (believing him to be innocent) when I have listened among ministers to the heavy charges brought against him. I did so once in an omnibus. A gentleman was present (there were three persons in the omnibus), unknown to me, who told Dr. Campbell of what I had done. A day or two after he wrote to me—"Thanks for your noble and fraternal conduct in the omnibus the other day. A friend of mine was there who reported it to me." I have done for Mr. and Mrs. Davies only what I had done for Dr. Campbell and others. In the one case my conduct was "noble and fraternal" in the other, it has led to my resignation of the fellowship of the Congregational Board.

Nevertheless, I have unshaken faith in truth, and in the God of truth. Nothing can allure me, or discourage me, or arrest me in the course I have entered upon: and nothing can cause me to forsake Mr. and Mrs. Davies but the proof of their guilt. The right will yet be defended, and the innocent delivered.

Your obedient servant,

Mornington-road, Regent's Park. ROBERT AINSLIE.
Dec. 17, 1853.

MATRIMONIAL INSTITUTION.

(Founded in 1846.)—This institution has been established many years, with great success, as a medium for the introduction of parties unknown to each other, who are desirous of forming Matrimonial Alliances, but who, from some cause or other, cannot find partners in their own circle of acquaintance, suitable in position, &c. The strictest honour and secrecy is maintained in every case.—Prospectuses, Application Forms, Rules, and every information, sent free to any name, initials, or address, on receipt of twelve postage stamps.

By order of the Directors,

LAWRENCE CUTHBERT.

12, John-street, Adelphi, London.

WINTER CLOTHING, FLANNELS,

BLANKETS, &c.—To Charities and Benefit Societies.—Messrs. ATKINSON and Co. beg to call particular attention to their very extensive Stock of Goods in the above departments, which they are selling at such prices as will give the fullest effect possible to the intentions of the benevolent at this season of the year.

ATKINSON and Co., Upholsterers and Drapers, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75, Westminster-bridge-road, Lambeth.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.

FUNDS WANTED.

THE CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION

SOCIETY has just concluded Three successful Courses of Lectures to the Working Classes at Hawkestone Hall, King Edward Schoolroom, and British School, Hoxleydown.

It has arranged for Three other Courses in January, besides separate Lectures by the Rev. BREWIN GRANT (see Advertisement below).

Its Funds are all but exhausted, and must be replenished without delay, or other contemplated Courses in February and March must be abandoned.

Friends of the Working Classes, lend us your kind sympathy and aid!

THOMAS CHALLIS, M.P., Treasurer.

ROBERT ASHTON, } Secretaries.

JOHN PITMAN, }

60, Paternoster-row, December 27, 1853.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY'S LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

THREE SEPARATE COURSES OF LECTURES will be delivered during the Month of JANUARY.

RAGGED SCHOOLS, LAMBETH, on Tuesday Evenings, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, by the Revs. Brewin Grant, B.A., Professor Godwin, Luke Wiseman, David Thomas, and George Palmer Davies, M.A., respectively.

LISBON-GROVE SCHOOLS, PADDINGTON, on Wednesday Evenings, January 4, 11, 18, 25, by Revs. B. Grant, B.A., George Rogers, Professor Godwin, and J. W. Richardson, respectively.

COVERDALE CHAPEL, LIMEHOUSE, on Monday Evenings, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, by the Revs. Brewin Grant, George Smith, G. Lewk-worth Smith, and John Adey, respectively.

To commence at Eight o'clock on each evening.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.

LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

THE Rev. BREWIN GRANT, B.A., has kindly acceded to the request of the CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY, to deliver Ten Lectures in London on the following Evenings in January:—

January 3—Ragged-schools, Lambeth-walk.

" 4—Lisson-grove, Paddington.

" 5—Falcon-square Chapel.

" 6—Borough-road Chapel.

Sunday Evening, Jan. 8—Sion Chapel, Whitechapel.

January 9—Coverdale Chapel, Limehouse.

" 10—Cowper-street-school, Finsbury: "The History of Mr. Grant's Mission to the Working Classes, 1853."

" 11—Tottenham-court-road Chapel.

" 12—Falcon-square Chapel.

" 13—Borough-road Chapel.

Lectures commence at Eight o'clock, except at Sion Chapel, on Sunday, when the service will commence at half-past Six.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, December 24, 1853.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
Cash received.	£686,311 11 2	£7,890 5 6	£694,201 16 8
Shares issued.	70,750	514	71,264

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

65,322, 61,562, 38,039, 41,292 * to 41,294 * 60,710 * to 60,714 * 48,164, 43,128, 36,001, 35,636, 43,060, 33,599, 57,630, 31,242, 29,018, 52,930, 56,192, 46,128, 92 * 93 * 69,286, 26,134, 32,041, 20,331 * 20,332 * 19,079, 10,357 * to 10,363 * 41,58, 58,806, 31,969, 70,179, 67,161, 53,103, 55,982, 26,136, 66,720, 69,508, 58,343, 35,958, 29,071, 44,413, 16,409, 47,527 * to 47,530 * 45,498, 57,011 * to 57,013 * 57,298 * 57,299 * 62,876, 66,268, 30,139, 63,836, 40,226, 61,173, 23,048, 53,383, 50,703, 67,542, 5,271, 50,111.

* Grouped.

The shares numbered 27,109, 14,466, 61,730, 59,056, 36,272, 20,713, 35,673, 54,539, 64,014, 37,054, 44,949, 63,166, 41,062, 48,951, 45,211, 62,427, 54,945, 6,968, 36,798, 63,720, and 57,972, were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrear, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing. Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street.

IMPORTANT TO EMIGRANTS AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY.

PLUMBE'S SOUTH SEA ARROW.

ROOT.—The genuine and superior qualities of this article have long established it in public estimation. It is greatly preferred by the most eminent Physicians in London for Invalids, and as the best food for Infants. It also forms a light nutritious diet for general use, and is most valuable in all cases of Diarrhoea, or other disorders of the stomach, therefore, indispensable to Emigrants.

Directions accompany each packet, which bears the signature of A. S. PLUMBE, 3, Alle-place, Great Alle-street, Whitechapel. Agents appointed in all parts of town and country. Retailers in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, Islington; Morgan, Sloane-street; Williams, Moorgate-street; Medes, Camberwell; Poulton, Hackney; and others.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 426.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1853

[PRICE 6d.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

RELIGIOUS ZEAL AND WORLDLY SPECULATION.

ONE of the saddest effects produced by a systematic resort to the compulsory method of supporting religious institutions, is the perverted state of conscience it legitimizes in those who appeal to it. Gentlemen who, in their private, social, and commercial relations, are beyond reproach, amiable in feeling, courteous in demeanour, honourable in business, as soon as they meddle with ecclesiastical matters on the coercive principle, appear forthwith to forget their Christianity, and without a symptom of repugnance, to descend to the dirtiest tricks of cunning, or to break out into the most outrageous manifestations of overbearing insolence. Human character is far more dependent upon the moral climate in which it may chance to exist, than most of us are accustomed to suspect. Transplant a man from the sphere in which he ordinarily moves, to one of unsettled or opposite conditions, and it is humiliating to observe the rapidity with which his very constitution undergoes a change. It is difficult to believe sometimes that he is the same being. All his maxims of conduct seem to be altered with his position—his dispositions and motives show themselves the very reverse of what they were—and, accordingly, as he revolves in this or that orbit, he is a Christian gentleman, or he is a low trickster, or a vulgar bully.

In connexion with no single matter of social interest in England, is this duplicity of character more obtrusively displayed than that of Church-rates. When legal provision is to be made for the maintenance of Divine worship in any parish, the vestry immediately becomes a place of carnival to some of the vilest passions of degraded humanity. Each compulsionist who enters, leaves his every-day character behind him. He deems himself authorised by usage, by opinion, by religion, to propose, to support, and to enact things, which he would rather starve than countenance elsewhere. He is no sooner across the threshold, than he undergoes a strange metamorphosis. With the tongue of a priest, you will see associated the head of a fox, and the heart and paws of a bear. With words of Scripture on his lips, he will insist upon cozening the parishioners, and will show his piety by scorning to accept as an offering what he can gripe as a prey. A clerical chairman, without care to keep up even an appearance of impartiality, a churchwarden, with accounts stuffed full of illegal items, and a representative or two of the gentry, eager to inflict upon Dissenting neighbours some spiteful indignity—these, joined, in most instances,

by tradesmen hungering for a job, and whose palms already itch in anticipation of being crossed by parish gold, are so well known in our Church-rate vestries, that their presence nowhere excites surprise. And yet, out of that miserable sphere, and beyond reach of the influence of that execrable ecclesiastical system upon the conscience and the character, these very persons may exhibit an even tenour of estimable social life, against which no one would venture to suggest a word of reproach.

Close vestries, of course, present us with the most aggravated specimens of this two-fold nature of human development. Exclude the light of the press—make vestrymen practically irresponsible—and give them a large surface of population from which to draw supplies—and there is no jobbery too rank for them to perpetrate with complacency—no pretext too hypocritical for them to put forward without a blush—no pettifoggery too mean for the majority of them to sanction—no oppression too outrageous for them to note with quiet and callous indifference. If it were possible to rip up the history of the Church administration of these cliques for the last twenty years, and to lay all its secrets bare to the world, the moral sense of society would be so shocked and disgusted, that we verily believe it would not tolerate a system capable of producing such results for another hour. Indeed, already, public opinion has doomed it. Its knell has been rung. Its remaining time is short—and hence, as might be expected, it is making the most, with the desperate energy of a convict, of its brief term.

These remarks have been wrung out of us, when we would fain have dispatiated upon kindlier themes, by the recent proceedings of the select vestry of Paddington parish. The patent facts before us are smooth enough—those which lie latent are, as usual, by far the more significant. In August last a proposal was submitted to this same vestry for an enormous outlay of parochial money in building new churches. Parliament was sitting at the time, and, as many members of Parliament are householders in the parish, and are also *ex officio* members of the vestry, the proposal was staved off by the appointment of a committee to inquire into and report upon the whole matter. Their report, dated Dec. 2, was submitted last week, with the results we shall presently mention. First of all, however, we must find room for the document itself. It is as follows:—

"Paddington, Dec. 2, 1853.—The Church Committee beg to report, that in compliance with the resolution of the vestry of the 2nd of August last, they have received and considered plans for building two additional churches in this parish, one at Craven-hill, proposed to be erected by the Rev. Richard Wood, and the other in Westbourne Park-road, proposed to be erected by Messrs. Phillips and Roy; and the committee recommend that sums of two thousand pounds be applied by the vestry, from the Church-rate, in aid of the cost of building each of these churches, upon condition that not fewer than 500 free sittings be appropriated in each church, for the use of the poor for ever, in positions to be approved by the vestry."

As soon as the report was presented, a motion was made by J. B. Smith, Esq., M.P., and seconded by Charles Hill, Esq., a magistrate, that a reporter should be admitted, on behalf of the public, but was very consistently negatived. The recommendation of the committee was then submitted for adoption, and, after an animated discussion, in which Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P., and Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., ably contested the proposition, it was carried by a majority of 20 to 3.

The latent facts are more discreditable. Church property in Paddington is very large,

and annually increases in value. Of this, the Bishop of London appropriates a third—the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, we believe, receiving the rest. The Bishop's rental in the parish so long ago as 1848 was admitted by his agent to amount to 21,441*l.*, and, when the leases fall in, it will be worth 300,000*l.* a year. It seems that the two churches proposed to be erected, are not destined for poorer localities, but for the accommodation of the gentry, and the free sittings will be occupied by their servants. Church extension in such parishes as Paddington is described as an affair of worldly speculation. A clergyman unattached, conscious of possessing popular talents and anxious to employ them, selects a well-to-do neighbourhood, puts down a thousand pounds, or perhaps two, with the understanding that he is to be appointed minister, gets up a subscription to about an equal amount, and then comes upon the parish for a rate to make up the deficiency. Or enterprising builders, after having run up a block of magnificent houses, find that want of church accommodation prevents their letting. To increase the value of their property, they start a scheme for the erection of a new church, head the subscription-list with a liberal contribution, and then apply to the vestry, nothing loth, to tax the parish in their behalf, to the tune of thousands. And thus law is made a tool in the hands of speculating clergymen and builders to carry out their private ends, and parishes are fleeced to provide church accommodation for gentlemen's servants, under pretence of supplying the spiritual destitution of the poor.

We lay these revolting and disgraceful incidents at the door of the compulsory system. It is more ruinous in its moral effects upon the character of those who resort to it, than it is irritating to the temper of those who suffer from it. It spoils the gentleman, and it destroys the Christian. It is time, for the sake of Churchmen themselves, that a law which they cannot handle without injury to their own disposition and reputation should be abolished. The Government, we learn, contemplates dealing with the question next session. But we have no expectation of an efficient and satisfactory measure, unless public opinion is more urgent in its demands than it has been of late years.

PROTESTANTISM IN PIEDMONT.

Turin was the scene of a striking event on the 15th instant—the opening and consecration of a fine new church, built for the use of the Waldenses. The building is situated in one of the best new streets of Turin, the Via del Rè; and its architecture, Lombard-Gothic, is said to recall the purer days of Italian religion. The walls are sustained by bold and lofty buttresses; the chief door is deep sunk beneath circular arches and semi-Gothic pillars; pinnacles rise above turretted angles; a handsome ante chapel leads to a spacious nave; and in the windows the use of painted glass has not been disdained. It is without the usual "chapels" at the side of Italian churches; it has no pictures, statues, or altars, but only a simple table with a pulpit behind it. Its position and architecture show how fully its existence is permitted by the authorities. This church has been built by private subscription, and prominent among the subscribers is General Beckwith, who enjoys the reputation of being a most munificent patron of the people of the Vallies. It is worthy of record, that when, some time ago, a deputation of bishops waited on King Victor Emanuel to induce him to withdraw the permission to build this church, the King replied by stating that the matter did not rest with him, but with his Parliament and Ministers; at the same time, he put the searching question, "Did they or did they not believe in the truth of the Catholic faith? If they did not, there was nothing to be said; if they, as he, did believe in it, they could not be alarmed at the building of a house called the Vaudois Church."

ORIGINAL
RELECTIVE

The opening and consecration of the church was attended by about twelve hundred persons, besides a quiet mob in the streets. Among those within were Mr. Hudson, the British Minister; M. Bunsen, the Prussian Envoy; M. Malan, the first Deputy from the Vaudois; and General Beckwith. Two sermons were preached—one in French, by the Moderator, M. Revel; a second in Italian, by M. Meilla. The last-named gentleman gave a history of the Waldenses, and dwelt upon the fact that they met there by virtue of the Constitution granted by Charles Albert, and nobly preserved by Victor Emanuel. It is not generally known that the Waldenses are in direct connexion with the British Government; but it is so. Oliver Cromwell authorised a subscription to be raised for their benefit while they were suffering under the cruel persecutions of the Duke of Savoy: part of it he transmitted to the Vallies, and part he funded, arranging that the interest should be sent to them annually. Charles the Second seized this fund; Queen Anne restored it; but in 1797 it fell into disuse in consequence of the war. It was revived again in 1826, and is paid to this day. This fund is expended exclusively on education and religion, and furnishes a part of the salaries of fifteen pastors, fifteen parish schoolmasters, and ninety hamlet schoolmasters. The Waldenses now amount to about 20,000 in the Vallies: they have a college, but take their degrees of theology in Switzerland. They publish two newspapers—*La Buona Novella* at Turin, and *Le Glaneur Savoyard* at Chambéry.

"A Lay Subscriber" states in the *Times* a few facts respecting Protestantism in Italy:—

I was present at Nice when the first importation of Bibles into Sardinia took place, when liberty of conscience was allowed by the new Constitution. They were sent by one of our Bible societies. The difficulty was to find a person who would undertake the sale, as a warning had already issued from every pulpit. A chemist at length undertook the sale, and was in consequence denounced, with the usual graphic eloquence, from every altar, in language such as could be scarcely equalled by our lowest rabble. While this had the desired effect of well-nigh ruining the chemist, it nevertheless advertised the sale, and persons from Genoa and other parts came to Nice to purchase Italian Bibles.

Since that time, Protestantism has made rapid strides, and Nice has taken the lead, by opening a French Evangelical church last October. Hitherto the English chaplain has conducted the service in a private room.

When at Turin I took some pains to ascertain the number of Protestants there, and from the most authentic sources I discovered that there were at least 7,000.

The traveller in Sardinia discovered a marked difference in all classes of the people now that liberty of conscience and of speech is granted to them. A spirit of free inquiry and discussion is gaining ground, not so much on political as on religious subjects; even the professed Roman Catholic papers in Turin and elsewhere do not hesitate freely to discuss these matters; and it is truly refreshing to see the natives of Tuscany and the Papal States pass through this country: they seem to breathe a purer atmosphere, and give vent to their feelings in no measured terms.

SOCIETY FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION FROM STATE-PATRONAGE AND CONTROL.

The gentlemen nominated at the late Conference to fill the various offices connected with this society, having been applied to, the following have, we understand, consented to act:—

Rev. J. Acworth, LL.D.	Bradford.
W. Baines, Esq.	Leicester.
George Bayley, Esq.	London.
James Bell, Esq., M.P.	"
H. Bidgood, Esq.	"
W. Biggs, Esq., M.P.	Leicester.
J. F. Bontems, Esq.	Hemel Hempstead.
Rev. J. Brown, D.D.	Edinburgh.
" J. Burnet	London.
" J. R. Campbell	Edinburgh.
" G. W. Conder	Leeds.
J. Cook, Jun., Esq.	London.
P. Crellin, Esq.	"
Rev. W. J. Cross	Bristol.
" R. Eckett	London.
W. Edwards, Esq.	"
H. R. Ellington, Esq.	"
Rev. J. Fletcher	Christchurch.
C. J. Foster, Esq., LL.D.	London.
R. Gardner, Esq., M.P.	"
Rev. A. Good	"
" J. Gordon	Coventry.
N. Griffin, Esq.	London.
Rev. S. Green	"
L. Heyworth, Esq., M.P.	Liverpool.
Rev. J. H. Hinton, A.M.	London.
" J. Hutton, LL.D.	Derby.
" W. Kirkus, LL.B.	London.
N. T. Langridge, Esq.	"
D. Macallan, Esq.	Aberdeen.
D. McLaren, Esq.	Edinburgh.
E. Miall, Esq., M.P.	London.
Rev. J. G. Miall	Bradford.
W. H. Michael, Esq.	Swansea.
A. Pellatt, Esq., M.P.	Staines.
Rev. J. Pringle	Newcastle.
" E. S. Pryce	Gravesend.
" Davis Rees	Llanelly.
" Andrew Reed	Norwich.
" W. Robinson	Cambridge.
George Rough, Esq.	Dundee.
T. Russell, Esq.	Edinburgh.
J. Sidebottom, Esq.	Manchester.
Edward Swaine, Esq.	London.
Rev. Thomas Thomas	Pontypool.
T. Thompson, Esq.	Chepstow.
J. H. Tillett, Esq.	Norwich.
Rev. F. Trestrail	London.

James Watts, Esq. Manchester.
Rev. D. Young, D.D. Perth.
TREASURER—William Edwards, Esq.
SECRETARY—John Carvell Williams, Esq.
AUDITORS—Ebenezer Clarke, Esq.; Charles Jones, Esq.; Henry Thompson, Esq.

The Council List, which is necessarily lengthy, will appear in the official Conference report about to be issued.

THE LATE DR. WARDLAW. (From the *Glasgow Commonwealth*.)

With the sincerest sorrow, if not with much surprise, Glasgow learned, on Saturday last, that one of the greatest and best of her sons had passed away from earth. The death of Dr. Wardlaw was an event not unexpected: his had been a laborious and a brave life; and for a considerable time passed his health had been so enfeebled, that it became apparent that his career on earth was fast drawing to a close. Within the last few months the neuralgia, to which he was periodically subject, made him reluctantly relinquish public duty and retire into privacy, a bilious attack precipitating his physical prostration. His spirits, however—always buoyant—never drooped, and the improvement which he experienced on Wednesday tended, in some degree, to remove any uneasiness which his indisposition had previously occasioned his friends. But next morning more virulent symptoms of the malady manifested themselves; he became more alarmingly ill, never rallied, and expired at an early hour on Saturday, at Easter House, in the vicinity of this city. The reverend doctor was in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and the fifty-first of his ministry.

Dr. Wardlaw was born in Dalkeith, and belonged to one of its most respected families. He studied for the ministry in connexion with the United Secession Church. Tracing his descent to Ralph Erskine, he felt a hereditary attachment to that Church. When on the eve of being licensed, he became a Congregationalist, and in 1803 was ordained in North Albion-street Chapel, where he continued to labour for about twenty years, when he and his congregation removed to the splendid chapel in West George-street. Here a congregation was formed, which for numbers, influence, and intelligence, stood second to none in Glasgow. At the institution of the local Bible Society he was appointed secretary, and for many years discharged the duties of the office with fidelity and zeal. Amid many temptations to leave Glasgow, either for pulpits or university chairs in England, where the emoluments would have been considerably larger than the stipend which he enjoyed in this city, although it was reported to be the highest given to any Dissenting minister north of the Tweed, he remained warmly attached to West George-street Chapel. About seven years after his ordination, he became tutor in the Glasgow Theological Academy, a position which he filled with efficiency and acceptance till his decease, and this, until recently, without fee or reward. In this institution he was early associated with the lamented Greville Ewing, and in later years with Professor Thomson. His fame as a theologian attracted students of all evangelical denominations to his class-room, and for nearly half a century he has sent forth a large number of able and faithful ministers, who are now engaged in all parts of the world. In February last, on the completion of the fiftieth year of his ministry, a jubilee was held to celebrate the auspicious event. The public *soirée* which took place in the City Hall was a noble demonstration, attended by the most influential clergymen of all denominations, who came from all parts of the United Kingdom.

By the removal of this brave and gentle spirit, nonconformity has lost one of its brightest ornaments. With Dr. Wardlaw has passed away the last surviving member of that little band which, in the teeth of deep-rooted hostility, had to fight the battle of Dissent in Glasgow at the beginning of the present century—when Dissent was looked upon as a strange, far from respectable, scarce to be tolerated, thing—when the people marvelled that it should be openly professed by men like Kidson and Wardlaw.

As a preacher, Dr. Wardlaw stood in the van of living celebrities. For purity of style, vigour of thought, concise arrangement, simplicity of elucidation, and cogency of reasoning, his sermons were universally admired. Mild gravity, mingled with a certain thoughtful sharpness, shone out of his countenance and his sermons. The tones in which he spoke were soft, tender, and trembling—and those who have heard the silvery sweetness of his "long audible whisper" can never forget that which, at the time, they thought they could have listened to for ever.

He was a voluminous and varied writer. He wrote on the Socinian Controversy, Assurance, Infant Baptism, Christian Ethics, &c. He published divers volumes of discourses, and many single sermons; he flung a smooth stone or two from the brook at the Goliath-forehead of Brougham, on the subject of man's responsibility for his belief; he had a brave contest with Chalmers on the voluntary question; he penned an interesting memoir of Dr. McAll; and gave to the world a masterly treatise on Congregationalism. Besides this, he has gone over the whole of the books of the Old Testament, the Acts of the Apostles, Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Thessalonians, Hebrews, the Epistles of James and Jude, and Revelation, besides giving thousands of detached sermons, and numerous short series of discourses.

For many years Dr. Wardlaw figured prominently at public meetings—political, educational, or religious. He was always popular as a platform speaker, although he might have enjoyed a much wider reputation among the multitude had he not been true to himself.

As a controversialist he was unequalled perhaps in Scotland. Often the subtlety of his reasoning was put to the severest tests, and his intellectual gladiatorialship invested him with a practical interest and importance

in the eyes of his countrymen, which have not been as absorbingly centred in any religious disputant of modern times. It was his lot to be met in debate by the most eminent of his contemporaries. To him was accorded the rare felicity of being abstinent from all acrimony and vituperation, and amid all his polemical controversies he commanded even the respect, affection, and friendship of his opponents.

The reverend doctor held his degree from an American college—a circumstance anything but creditable to the senates of our Scotch Universities, and more especially to that of our own college, of which he was a distinguished graduate.

In private life, Dr. Wardlaw was greatly beloved. He was a genuine pattern of the refinements, accomplishments, and virtues which mark the scholar and Christian gentleman. He possessed a rich vein of humour, and was extremely fond of innocent pleasantries. The reverend doctor is survived by Mrs. Wardlaw and a numerous family.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday). A religious service was held at twelve o'clock in West George-street Chapel, which was filled with a deeply-interested assembly. The galleries were appropriated to ladies, the area to gentlemen. The pulpit and other prominent parts of the church were hung in black. Amongst those present from a distance, we observed the Rev. Dr. John Brown, Edinburgh; Rev. Dr. W. L. Alexander, Edinburgh, and Archibald Fullarton, Esq., publisher, Edinburgh. The devotional services, which were deeply impressive, were conducted by the Rev. Alexander Fraser, Rev. Dr. Smyth, of Free St. George's, and the Rev. Dr. Robson. An appropriate address was given by the Rev. Professor Thompson, the delivery of which occupied half an hour. The funeral procession was formed at two o'clock, and proceeded along George-street and High-street in the following order: 1. The relatives of the deceased. 2. The deacons of West George-street Chapel. 3. The Lord Provost and magistrates. 4. The clergymen who conducted the service, followed by other clergymen of different denominations. 5. The students of the Glasgow Theological Academy. 6. The members of West George-street Church and congregation. 7. The public.

The entire number in procession amounted to about 800. Thousands of on-lookers crowded the streets, and the city bells were tolled till after the funeral cortege reached the Necropolis. The tomb occupies a most eligible position on the summit of the grounds near Knox's monument, and in the immediate vicinity of the spots where lie the remains of Dr. Dick, Professor of Theology to the United Secession Church, William McGavin, Esq., author of "The Protestant," and Dr. Hough.

To-morrow, the Rev. Dr. John Brown, of Edinburgh, will occupy the vacant pulpit in the forenoon, Dr. Wm. Lindsay Alexander in the afternoon, and the Rev. Norman McLeod, of the Barony Parish Church, in the evening. Admission to all the services will be by ticket.

THE COLONIAL EPISCOPATE.—The number of home and colonial bishops is now exactly equal, viz., twenty-eight. Exactly twenty bishops for the service of the Church abroad have been consecrated within the last fourteen years:—

	Founded.		Founded.
Nova Scotia	1787	Gibraltar	1842
Quebec	1793	Tasmania	1842
Calcutta	1814	Fredericton . . .	1845
Jamaica	1824	Colombo	1845
Barbadoes	1824	Capetown	1847
Madras	1835	Newcastle	1847
Sydney	1836	Melbourne	1847
Bombay	1837	Adelaide	1847
Toronto	1838	Rupert's Land . .	1849
Newfoundland . . .	1839	Victoria	1849
New Zealand	1841	Montreal	1850
Jerusalem	1841	Sierra Leone . . .	1852
Antigua	1842	Graham's-town . .	1853
Guiana	1842	Natal	1853

THE CLERGY RESERVES, CANADA.—The aim of the opponents of the secularization of the Clergy Reserves in Canada seems now to be procrastination; and in this policy they are said to be assisted by many members of the present Liberal Government, who are reluctant to deal decisively with the matter. Their present plan is to hold another session, and then leave the Reserves question for decision by a general election.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN TURKEY AND SWEDEN.—We understand that the last monthly committee of the Evangelical Alliance was largely occupied with great questions affecting religious freedom abroad. The subject of the Turk lately stated in these columns to have been beheaded at Adrianople, was brought up, together with that of another Turkish family which has been recently baptised in Malta, and the members of which are now liable to be decapitated by the inexorable law of the Koran, if they return to their native city in Turkey. We are informed that it was decided to obtain more precise information from Constantinople, before carrying the matter to the Foreign-office.—The intelligence communicated from Sweden was still more thrilling. In that Protestant country, the imprisonment of Bible readers has attained to a fearful extent, both in number and severity. One of the prisons in the north of Sweden is stated to be overflowing with prisoners for the faith. The Roman Catholics are also visited with the same cruelties as the Protestants. In the meantime, the intelligence that sympathy is evinced in other lands in behalf of suffering brethren, is producing great effects. A writer states that Englishmen can have no idea of the impression made on the mind of Swedes by the report in the *Times* of the interview had by the Evangelical Alliance with Lord Clarendon on the subject of Sweden, as well as by French and Swiss manifestations of brotherly love towards the persecuted. It was thought expedient at the Alliance

committee to let these feelings have a little time to work; and meanwhile the Alliance is to fulfil its pledge to Lord Clarendon of furnishing the Foreign-office with a statement of the facts in writing, waiting till the spring before any positive action is taken.—*Christian Times*.

ECCLESIASTICAL ABUSES AT WINDSOR.—A deputation from the Town Council of Windsor waited upon the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on Thursday, to complain of certain misappropriation of the revenues of the Chapel Royal of St. George at Windsor. Mr. Darvill, as the spokesman of the deputation, pointed out that 46,000*l.* had been paid over to the Commissioners, being the proceeds of the suppressed canonries of St. George's Chapel; that they had no right to these revenues, as the property belonged to the chapel, which was not an ecclesiastical but a military foundation—a part and parcel of the military Order of the Garter. Mr. Darvill also said that 20,000*l.* had been paid for the repair of the lower ward of Windsor Castle out of the public funds, instead of the properties of the Royal Chapel. The Commissioners said they only received surplus funds, and had no management of the property: the Crown alone has power to put the matter on a satisfactory basis, because no court has jurisdiction over the Order of the Garter.

CHURCH EXTENSION AT PADDINGTON.—On Tuesday a meeting of the select vestry of Paddington was held at the Vestry Hall, Harrow-road, to take into consideration a report from the Church committee, in favour of grants of 2,000*l.* to each of two proposed churches, upon condition that no fewer than 500 free sittings be appropriated in each church for the use of the poor for ever, in positions to be approved by the vestry. About thirty members were present, and the Rev. A. M. Campbell occupied the chair. Mr. Martelli moved the resolution, proposing that 4,000*l.* be applied out of the Church-rates in aid of building one church in Westbourne Park-road and one at Craven-hill. He said these churches were wanted, and more churches would be wanted by and by.—Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., expressed his dissent to the report of the committee. He submitted the following amendment: "That before the vestry determine to act on the report of the Church committee, which recommends the expenditure of 4,000*l.* for further church extension in the parish of Paddington, the sense of the parishioners be taken thereon, either by public meeting or by such other means as the vestry may deem advisable for ascertaining their wishes."—Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., seconded the motion.—After a discussion, the Chairman put the amendment and the original motion to the vote, when there appeared—for the amendment three, against it twenty. The original motion for granting 4,000*l.* to the new churches was then put and carried by twenty to three.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

SURREY CHAPEL.—The *Dover Chronicle* thus refers to a fact mentioned in the postscript of our last number: "Considerable consternation has been caused amongst the large congregation which assembles weekly at Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars-road, London, by the more than vague rumour of the intended resignation of the popular pastor there, the Rev. Mr. Sherman. It is intimated that the rev. gentleman, who for seventeen years has filled the place of the celebrated Rowland Hill, finds his health failing and his energy impaired to such an extent that the relinquishment of his heavy duties, although involving a sacrifice of 800*l.* per annum, has become inevitable. The trustees and elders of the chapel, however, anxious to retain his services, have offered Mr. Sherman the choice of three alternatives for effecting that purpose—viz., an assistant minister, a year's leave of absence, and a country house with a carriage—all of which propositions have been, it is believed, declined. Report places the Rev. Newman Hall, of Hull, in the pulpit of Mr. Sherman." Mr. Sherman's name has been mentioned in connexion with the New Congregational Chapel at Blackheath.

The Rev. S. S. ENGLAND has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Church at Walthamstow, and is expected to enter upon his labours on the first Sabbath in January.

BRISTOL.—The Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., of Birmingham, has lately visited this city, and delivered to numerous auditories four lectures on various aspects of Modern Infidelity, and of Christianity in relation to it. A large number of working men attended.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.—Mr. Robert Tubbs, of Thriswell-street Chapel, Bristol, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Baptist Church, Rickmansworth, and intends entering upon his stated labours the first Sabbath of January.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—On Monday, Dec. 12, an interesting tea meeting was held in the Assembly Room of this town, to celebrate the settlement of the Rev. N. Hawke (formerly of Guilsborough) as pastor of the Baptist Church and congregation in this place. About 230 persons sat down to tea, after which the Rev. C. Wildie supplicated the Divine blessing upon pastor and people. Appropriate addresses were then delivered by the Revs. W. Payne, of Chesham, B. P. Pratten, of Box Moor, L. Stanion, of Berkhemsted, C. Wildie of Box Lane, and N. Hawke.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, December 22nd, the Baptist Church and congregation assembling in Brown-street Chapel, presented their pastor, the Rev. J. W. Todd—now resigning his connexion of six years with them—with a handsome silver teapot and cream ewer, value 20*l.*, as a mark of their affectionate esteem and respect for him. A tea meeting was held in the vestries, which were comfortably filled; the company afterwards adjourned to the chapel, where the business of the evening was conducted. Interesting addresses were delivered by the ministers of the neighbourhood, and deacons and friends of the congregation. The

chair was filled by one of the deacons, whilst another accompanied the gift with an affectionate testimony to the personal services of the Rev. J. W. Todd. The gift itself, together with the expressions of affection and esteem with which it was accompanied, were acknowledged by the Rev. J. W. Todd in a calm and interesting speech.

VOLUNTARY EDUCATION IN WALES.—The friends of voluntary education in the Principality are actively stirring to promote and secure the revival of the Normal College, in order to obtain the strict moral and religious training of teachers for the Principality. For this purpose meetings are to be held in all the principal towns, when several gentlemen who have formed themselves into a committee will attend, for the purpose of expressing their views and sentiments respecting the necessity of securing efficient and well-trained teachers for the Principality.—*Times*.

SCHOOL FOR THE SONS OF DISSENTING MINISTERS.—It will be perceived that this institution, conducted by the Rev. T. H. Morgan, at Shireland Hall, near Birmingham, now contains the sons of ministers of seven different religious denominations, a conclusive proof of the real catholicity of its basis. The reports of the recent examinations of the scholars by Dr. Melson, Professor Watts, of Spring-hill College, and other gentlemen, are highly favourable to the efficiency of the institution, and, consequently, to its claims to support. We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement which appears elsewhere upon the subject.

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, December 12, a meeting was held in the Congregational Library, at which Edward Swaine, Esq., presided, when a society was formed under the above designation. The object it proposes, is to enable ministers to effect an insurance for the benefit of their widows and children, by assisting them to pay the requisite annual premiums. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. Dr. Stowell, George Smith, T. James, W. Lucy, R. Littler, H. Bromley, and T. B. Hudson; J. G. Stapleton, J. R. Ward, Esqs. A strong feeling of interest and approval was evinced by all present; and a confident hope was entertained that when the committee should be able to bring the nature and claims of the society distinctly before the public, in the opening of the year, it would meet with very cordial sympathy and support.

BASSINGBOURNE, CAMBS.—On Thursday, the 15th inst., the Rev. Charles Stokes Carey, late of Hackney College, was set apart to the work of the ministry. The Rev. J. Stockbridge, of Morden, read the Scriptures and prayed; the Rev. Samuel Ransom, classical tutor of Hackney College, gave an exposition of our principles as Congregationalists; the Rev. W. G. Barrett, of Royston, asked the usual questions, to which appropriate answers were given by the pastor, and by Mr. John Hopkins, one of the deacons; the ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. R. E. Forsaith, of Royston; the Rev. J. Watson, theological tutor, delivered a charge to the young minister; and the Rev. James Mirams, of Chishill, concluded with prayer. The other parts of the service were conducted by the Rev. A. F. Bennett, the Rev. J. Marchant, the Rev. W. Joseph, and the Rev. H. Gammage. In the evening a charge to the people was delivered by Mr. Carey's late pastor, the Rev. William Woodhouse, of Hackney. A goodly number sat down to dinner, and speeches were delivered by the newly-ordained pastor, and by the Revs. Messrs. Watson, Ransom, and Forsaith. Though the day was bitterly cold, and the snow fell fast and thick, the large chapel was well filled morning and evening.

ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION FOR THE POOR.

The students of the Wolvesley Training School, and many schoolmasters of the diocese of Winchester and Salisbury, headed by the Government Inspector, the Rev. W. H. Brookfield, met Lord Ashburton last week, to hear from him an explanation of a plan he had in view for their benefit. There were also present the Dean of Winchester, Archdeacon Wigram, the Hon. and Rev. S. Best, Dr. Wilson, Canon Woodroffe, and other friends of education. A letter of sympathy and excuse was read from the Bishop of Winchester. Lord Ashburton prefaced a very eloquent speech by announcing, that at the examinations at Easter he proposed to award a scholar's prize of 8*l.* "for the most extensive knowledge of common things;" and two teachers' prizes of 15*l.* and 7*l.* for the most effective teaching of common things; similar prizes to the female students of Salisbury Training School, and the female teachers of schools open to inspection in Hampshire and Wiltshire. The Dean of Hereford, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, Miss Burdett Coutts, Lord Lansdowne, and Lord Granville, intended to offer similar prizes in their respective localities. The Bishops of Winchester and Salisbury, and the councils of the Training Schools of Winchester and Salisbury, had sanctioned the plan. Lord Ashburton unfolded at great length the object in view. The following is a summary of his admirable remarks:—

It was with confidence, therefore, that he turned to them and craved their assistance in this good work of diffusing among the people a knowledge of common things. They could show, not only by their lessons in school, but still more powerfully by their example out of school, how the garden could best be cultivated, how the dwelling might be most efficiently and economically warmed and ventilated, upon what principles food and clothing should be selected, how chronic ailments might be averted by timely attention to premonitory symptoms and recourse to the physician. They could teach the measurement of work, the use of the lever, the pulley, and the windlass. They could, in short, expound those methods, suggested by ever-advancing science, by which toil might be lightened and subsistence economised. All this was capable of being taught, and well taught. Why was one mother of a family a better economist

than another? Why could one live in abundance where another starved? Why, in similar dwellings, where the children of one parent healthy, of another puny and ailing? Why could this labourer do with ease a task which would kill his fellow? It was not luck nor chance that decided these differences; it was the patient observation of nature that suggested to some gifted minds rules for their guidance which had escaped the heedlessness of others. Why should not these rules, systematised by science, and illustrated by their didactic powers, not be imparted to the pupils of their schools, to enable youth to start at once with the experience of age; or, if this were not in all cases possible, why should not all be taught betimes to read those lessons in the book of nature from which some had derived such unquestionable advantage? The operatives of our great towns had long felt the degradation of the mechanical drudgery to which they thought themselves condemned; they felt a craving for some intellectual pursuit which should beguile its monotony, but their struggles for relief had taken a wrong direction. They had sought to develop their understandings in something out of, and above, their daily occupation; instead of first mastering the principles which govern its exercise, they had thought only of quitting their own sphere under the notion that they could only raise themselves by doing that which those above them did, and learning that which those above them learned; whereas that which really elevated a man was the cultivation of mind which followed upon its enlightened application to his work. They were like Naaman the Syrian, who scorned the little stream at his feet, and would fain go off to Abana and Pharpar, rivers of the distant Damascus, to find a remedy for his affliction.

The noble lord proceeded to explain his reasons for distinguishing the scholars from the teachers' prizes. His address was listened to with the most eager interest, and was repeatedly interrupted by emphatic indications of sympathy and satisfaction; and the Dean of Winchester, the Archdeacon of Winchester, and Mr. Best, spoke in the warmest approval of the plan.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

THE FLEETS AND THE TURKISH CAPITAL.

These semi-official *Correspondents* of Vienna announces that the French and English Governments, as soon as they had intelligence of the destruction of a Turkish squadron at Sinope, sent off orders to Admirals Hamelin and Dundas to enter the Black Sea without delay. By the same organ the Government had previously intimated the probability of such an event, adding that the ships would enter the Buxine on a peaceful errand. It is probable that this order has been forestalled by the discretionary powers lodged with the Ambassadors of France and England having been put in force. At all events, we learn that on the 5th Redschid Pasha presented to them a formal application for the aid of their forces. After describing the action at Sinope, the Turkish Foreign Minister says:—

The English and French fleets have been sent to the Bosphorus with the sincere intention of protecting the shores of the Ottoman Empire. This recent occurrence proves sufficiently that it is the determination of Russia to attack, by means of her fleets, those points against which operations may be best directed. The impossibility, however, of defending so vast an extent of coast without a sufficient force in the Black Sea is perfectly evident; and, although the Sultan's Government has the intention of sending thither the fleet, it will be inadequate to the object in view.

Hence, the Sublime Porte considers itself under the necessity of having recourse to the effective solicitude of the two allied Governments. This notification is made accordingly, and, at the same time, to the Ambassadors of England and France.

The Vienna note reached Constantinople on the 15th, when Redschid Pasha had an interview with the Foreign Ministers. He promised to do his utmost for the furtherance of peace at the Grand Divan, which was to meet on the 20th, but thought that the conduct of Persia and Russia would render an arrangement very difficult. The Turks were, it is said, preparing for an expedition against Sebastopol.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

The news from the Danube seems to indicate activity on both sides. The Russians attempted to surprise Matschin, a fort near Brailow, on the Turkish side of the Danube. They cannonaded the place, and landed a body of riflemen on the right bank; but these were soon disposed of by a body of Turkish cavalry, and the attempt failed.

On the 12th, 13th, and 14th inst., large masses of Russian troops were marching upon Lesser Wallachia. Prince Gortschakoff has taken the command of the troops in that part of the country.

The Vienna *Weekly Medical Gazette* has a letter of the 5th from the Turkish camp on the Danube. The writer says that three great columns are to cross the river as soon as the floating ice will permit. The greatest part of the artillery, cavalry, and baggage-trains is directed towards Silistria. Wounded men are continually brought in from Rustchuck, as the out-pickets of both armies persist in firing at each other. Deserters of all nationalities, who come in great numbers from the left bank, keep Omar Pasha well informed of what is going on in the Walachian plains. The head-quarters are at Rustchuck, but the troops are kept in readiness for an advance. The Balkan army has received a further reinforcement of 15,000 men, who are principally Asiatics.

RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF THE SLAUGHTER AT SINOPÉ.

The Russian dispatches, giving details of the action at Sinope, have been published at St. Petersburg. It appears that when Admiral Nachimoff was cruising off the coast of Anatolia, he "saw" a division of the Turkish squadron at anchor in the harbour of Sinope. Instead of immediately making a dash at this force, he sent the *Bessarabia* to Sebastopol with the intelli-

gence (probably also to seek for orders); and on the 27th November three ships of 120 guns each, named the *Ville de Paris*, the *Grand-Duke Constantine*, and the *Tri Sviatitelia*, joined his squadron, under Admiral Novosilski. On the 28th, Nachimoff gave orders that the fleet should enter the harbour as soon as the weather would permit. On the 30th, favoured by a north-east wind and a dense fog, the Russian fleet, Nachimoff leading in the *Empress Maria*, entered the bay under press of canvass. They were not seen by the Turks until within half a mile. The ships took up position and dropped their anchors, under a "terrible fire from the Turkish ships and batteries;" but in "less than five minutes the *Grand Duke Constantine* demolished the land-battery next her guns," and blew up the Turkish frigate lying off that battery, with Paixhans. The *Ville de Paris* served another frigate in the same way. The Turks gallantly cut the cables of the *Empress Maria* and the *Tri Sviatitelia*; but fresh anchors were dropped, and they held on.

At two o'clock P.M. the guns of the Turkish ships were silenced. Three frigates, one of them of seventy-four guns, with the Admiral's flag on board, were burning, and of the two transports nothing could be seen but the mast. We had sunk them. The Turkish quarter of Sinope was in flames; and at 2.30 P.M. the Admiral stopped the firing, and sent an officer with a flag of truce, to tell the authorities of Sinope that if another gun was fired, either from the town or the strand batteries, he should certainly bombard and utterly destroy the town of Sinope. The officer landed, and stayed above an hour; but he could not find the Turkish authorities. He did not see a single Turk; they had all taken refuge in the neighbouring villages." It is subsequently added, that "the conflagration respected (spared) the Greek quarter of Sinope!"

That there should be enough men-of-war at the scene of action, and that the destruction of the Turkish fleet might be complete, three additional steamers—the *Odesa*, the *Crimea*, and the *Chersonese*—were sent from Sebastopol on the 29th, under Admiral Kornileff. They arrived, however, at the close of the fight, in time to attempt to intercept the *Tail steamer*—the sole Ottoman ship that escaped destruction at Sinope.

On the evening of the 30th, says the Russian account, the guns of the burning vessels went off one after another, blew up, and their burning fragments were hurled over the Turkish quarter of Sinope. "On the following morning, nothing was left of the twelve ships of the Turkish squadron but the *Damiette* frigate, which had been taken in tow by the *Odesa*, and the sloop and the corvette—mere hulks—in the Northern portion of the bay. On being examined, the *Damiette* was found to have her hull torn by seventeen cannon-balls; and her rigging, &c., were in such a state that she could not be taken to Sebastopol. She was run on shore, and burnt. Orders were also given to burn the sloop and the corvette. The officers charged with the execution of these orders found on board the sloop *Osman Pasha*, the commander of the Turkish squadron, who had a wound in his right leg. They found also two captains and eighty sailors. The prisoners were at once removed to our ships. On that evening, not a single Turkish vessel remained in the harbour of Sinope."

The Russian fleet remained at Sinope, repairing damages, until the 2nd December, when it departed for Sebastopol. The *Empress Maria*, the *Grand-Duke Constantine*, the *Tri Sviatitelia*, and the *Rotislav*, were so damaged by the Turkish fire that the steamers had to tow them back to Sebastopol. In his dispatch, Prince Menschikoff says—"The orders of his Imperial Majesty have been most brilliantly executed."

THE WAR IN ASIA.

The *Times* publishes a connected account of the progress of the war in Asia, dated Erzeroum, Nov. 17, from private letters, which are said to be entitled to full credit. From these it would appear, that the successes of the Turks have not been over-rated. The writer recounts the capture of St. Nicholas, and a large stock of flour, and informs us that it has been subsequently garrisoned by 4,000 Turks. On the 3rd November, Ibrahim Bey attacked a body of 5,000 Russians encamped at Valee Doozee, with light troops only; who, however, "carried everything before them"—losing, nevertheless, 1,000 men. Ali Pasha entered Georgia after this; repulsed a Russian attack at Bayazid; and was followed by Selim and Mehemet Pashas across the frontier; the united forces marching upon Erivan. When it was known that Urzughett had fallen, Kerim Pasha urged an immediate advance of the whole army into Georgia. Abdi Pasha objected, but subsequently yielded; and, leaving 12,000 men to watch Gumri (Alexandropol), the main body of the army, 23,000 strong, began a march from Kars for Teflis. Somewhere between the 12th and the 17th the Russians occupying Gumri were forced by the Turks into the fortress. The Turks were greatly in want of battering-cannon. Some heavy guns from Trebizond had stuck in the mountains between that city and Erzeroum, and there would remain until the spring. The Turks had fought well, but the capacity of Abdi Pasha, the chief in command, was doubted. The Turkish Government had appointed Sadullah Pasha, a Georgian by birth, Governor of Georgia; and from the symptoms manifested, an insurrection of the Georgians was daily expected.

Finally, the strongest convictions are expressed that the Russian forces in Asia are comparatively small, and that the accounts circulated from time to time of the arrival of large reinforcements have been mostly fictitious. "Altogether," it is remarked, "it is quite marvellous to find them so ill-prepared for defence, so easily beaten and dispirited." The hostility of the population by which they are surrounded is regarded, however, as the true explanation of this state of affairs, since they are obliged to scatter a large number of men in fortresses, while the movements of the Circassians call for all their vigilance in the field.

Subsequently, however, to the date of the letters from Erzeroum, we have a Russian bulletin, claiming immense victories, in which Prince Andronikoff gives

an account of his services. He narrates how he attacked and carried an "inaccessible position" of the enemy near Akaltsich, with the bayonet, after a fierce cannonade. He styles it an "unheard-of feat of arms," and one such as could only be accomplished by the dauntless courage of Russian soldiers. Their own loss is described as slight, that of the Turks considerable. However, they admit that General Freitag was killed. But it appears that Prince Andronikoff was engaged with only a detachment of the Turkish army, as he states that the routed troops could not effect a junction with the main body. This conflict is said to have occurred on the 26th November; but there are reasons for thinking that the dispatch was antedated. Commenting on his own success, Prince Andronikoff exclaims: "Can there be obstacles for an army mindful of the Imperial word—*In te Domine speravi, non confundar in eternum!*"

Other Russian victories are mentioned: defeat of 30,000 Turks at Baidar, on the 14th November, under Abdi Pasha; Turks repulsed from Gumri on the 16th, by Beboutoff, and dispersed by Prince Orbeliani with Georgian militia; another Russian victory at Gumri, 1,000 Turks killed. It is impossible to reconcile the conflicting accounts, and confusion of dates between the new and old style. Except the victory gained by Prince Andronikoff, all the others are equally claimed by the Turks.

REJOICINGS AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Te Deum was sung in the Imperial chapel and all the churches of St. Petersburg on the 8th instant, for the victories at Sinope and Akhaltsich. The celebration in the Imperial chapel was attended by the Emperor and Empress, the Imperial family, Ministers of State, Admirals, Generals, and dignitaries present in the capital. A salute was fired from the fortress, and the city illuminated in the evening. "The most pious Czar," writes the *St. Petersburg Journal*, "thanked the Lord of Lords for the success of the victorious Russian arms which triumphed in the sacred combat for the orthodox faith."

The satisfaction of the Emperor at the receipt of the accounts of the success of the Russian arms may be seen from the following autograph to Prince Menschikoff:—

St. Petersburg, Nov. 29 (Dec. 11).

Prince Alexander Sergejewitch,—The victory of Sinope proves evidently that our Black Sea fleet has shown itself worthy of its destination. With hearty joy I request you to communicate to my brave seamen that I thank them for the success of the Russian flag, on behalf of the glory and honour of Russia. I perceive, with satisfaction, that Tachisme has not been forgotten in the Russian navy, and that the grandsons have proved themselves worthy of their grandfathers.

I remain, always and unalterably,

Your well-inclined and grateful

NICHOLAS

Prince Andronikoff has received the order of St. George of the third class, and other officers have been rewarded.

The Czar has published a ukase, proclaiming the state of siege throughout Bessarabia and the Governments of Cherson and Tauris, and placing those provinces under martial law.

Another ukase releases a portion of the crews of the Baltic fleet until the spring—namely, twenty-eight men of each of the crews of the guard, and forty-eight of those of the line. This measure is to remain in force till the 13th March, 1854. [In explanation, it may be stated that the best seamen of the Baltic fleet have been in the Black Sea fleet some three months: the men sent home are raw levies.]

The *New Prussian Gazette* states that the Emperor of Russia has signified to the Cabinet of London, through his ambassador, Baron Brunow, that he will regard the entrance of the Anglo-French squadron into the Black Sea as a declaration of war. Lord Clarendon has replied that England does not desire war, but considers herself bound to protect the Turkish ports.

The reason why a part of General Luder's corps was sent to the Crimea is now explained. On the 29th November there was an insurrection in that peninsula in favour of the Turks, and even now it is not perfectly quiet.

All foreign merchant vessels in the Black Sea going to ports of the Ottoman Empire are, by order of the Russian Government, to be subjected to search. Very recently, the *Phoebe*, an iron merchant vessel, which was on her way from Constantinople to Samsoun and Trebizond, was hailed by some Russian vessels, but three shots were fired at her before she could be induced to bring to. After she had been overhauled, she was allowed to proceed on her voyage.

Letters from Odessa of the 8th inst. state positively that the Russians lost the *Jagondib*, of ninety guns, at the battle of Sinope, and of which no mention is made in their official reports. It appears that this vessel was bravely attacked by a Turkish frigate, and that both ships blew up after a sanguinary engagement. It is added, that the Russians likewise lost three vessels of inferior force. Admiral Osman had undergone amputation of his leg, and remained in a dangerous state.

The Hamburg papers have letters from Warsaw of the 18th instant. Part of the Russian army in Poland has been ordered to join the forces in Walachia. There have been two levies of recruits in Poland, on the nights of the 24th November and of the 8th of December, and the levy was made at the rate of eight per 1,000. The number of recruits amounted to 16,000. They have been divided into detachments, and escorted to Kiew, whence they are to proceed to the Caucasus and to the fleet in the Black Sea.

THE SERBIAN PRINCIPALITY.

The warlike activity of Serbia still excites attention. Prince Kara Georgewitch recently left his capital for Kragujevatz, taking with him General Kin-

canin, the officer who commanded a contingent in the Hungarian war. The pretext for this seclusion of the Prince is that at Kragujevatz he can take measures which could not be done secretly at Belgrade. Guns continued to be cast and proved. Omar Pasha has sent 300 artillerymen to the fortress. On the frontier stand 12,000 Bosniacs, intrenched at Visegrad and Mokrogora. The would-be Russian Consul, M. de Moukhine, resides at Semlin, and frequently crosses to Belgrade in disguise. A concerted movement between Serbia and Montenegro is spoken of.

M. de Fonton has been appointed by the Emperor of Russia Imperial Commissioner in Serbia.

A firman has been issued in favour of Serbia, in which the privileges formerly conceded to that State are declared and confirmed.

The Russian Court has given an evasive answer to the Servian complaint respecting the dangerous proximity of the ex-Prince Milosch to the Servian frontier.

The 12th was an eventful day for the Servians. The anniversary of their independence was celebrated at Belgrade, and for the first time the usual prayer aloud "for our Russian protector, the Emperor Nicholas," was omitted.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Persian Minister, after breaking off diplomatic relations with the Porte, retired to Bagdad. Mr. Thompson, her Britannic Majesty's chargé d'affaires at Teheran, has likewise broken off all relations with the Persian Court. The Russians have promised Persia support, to raise the Afghans against British rule. The debt of fifty millions due from Persia to the Russian Government will no longer be claimed; but Persia must side in the coming struggle against her fellow in faith, the Ottoman.

The Persians and Russians have, it is said, opened a direct communication. The Russian General Yermoloff is to command the Persian force.

M. Pouillade, the French Consul in Walachia, left Galatz on the 4th inst., on board a Lloyd steamer, which was bound for Constantinople. The Russians stopped the steamer at the Sulina mouth, and compelled her to proceed to Odessa.

The Czar has granted a pension of 1,000 ducats per month to the Princes Ghika and Stirbey. Prince Ghika's debts, to the amount of 50,000 ducats, have been paid by the Czar.

FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says that the Emperor of France gave way to a "burst of indignation" when the calamitous event was first made known to him, and that for one whole day the Emperor was fully determined to undertake alone, if necessary, the task of protecting the Turks from future outrage in the Black Sea, if not avenging those they have already endured. A personage of some distinction, though not a political character, having very recently mentioned to Louis Napoleon that he had heard of the entry of the fleets, and wished to know if it was true—"Yes," the Emperor is said to have answered, "I hope so, and if they have entered you may rest assured that they shall not quit it, except with the Russians from the Principalities." He has declared on another occasion that, in the Eastern question as it stood, there was but one course for him to follow, and that was *le sentier d'honneur*—the path of honour—and that he was determined to do so, even if he did it alone and unaided.

A correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge*, writing from Paris on Dec. 22, affirms that, on the news of Lord Palmerston's resignation, Louis Napoleon caused a strong note to be written to the English Government plainly stating that the Eastern question had now arrived at such a point that any hesitation, any compromise, was out of the question, and requesting to be informed categorically whether the English Government would elect to abandon Turkey or to support her openly and effectually in the present struggle.

The Paris *Patrie* prominently endorses this article: "The massacre of Sinope," it goes on to say, "which has no precedent in the darkest pages of the Lower Empire, has had an immense effect upon all Europe. It creates a new position, and new duties for all civilised nations."

Accounts from Lyons state that the disaffected in that city had made arrangements to attempt an insurrection on the 20th instant, but finding that the authorities had become acquainted with the plot, and were prepared to adopt measures for its immediate suppression, they very prudently abstained from carrying their intentions into execution. Several of the leaders were, however, arrested.

ITALY.

The Legislative Assembly of Piedmont was opened on Monday week, by the King in person. His speech is said to have been warmly applauded. He congratulated the Piedmontese nation on its intelligence; and recommended the Parliament to encourage that spirit of union, by the aid of which the Government might find force sufficient to maintain intact the dignity of the country, and preserve the noble principle of national independence from any insult. He concluded with these words—"Have confidence in me, and by our union we will crown the grand edifice raised by the hands of my father, and which mine will defend and preserve."

Morelli, one of the sub-agents of the Police of Rome, detested by the people, recently fell by the knife of an assassin. He was walking with two women; someone tapped him on the shoulder; he turned, and was instantly stabbed in the neck. The blow was given with great dexterity and accuracy, dividing the carotid artery. The assassin escaped.

The Pope has sanctioned the understanding to which his Government has come with the Govern-

ment of Great Britain with respect to certain reciprocal advantages to be conceded to vessels in the ports of either State.

The Pope was to hold an allocution at Rome on the 12th instant, for the purpose of giving his sanction to the creation of one archbishopric and two bishoprics of the Greek Church, for Slavonia, Croatia, and the Southern districts of Hungary.

It is reported that negotiations are going on for the simultaneous evacuation of the Roman States by the French and Austrian armies of occupation. It appears that a secret treaty exists, by which that double occupation was to last for five years. The five years are about to expire; and the Pope is anxious to get rid of his foreign protectors, and to trust his safety to the safeguard of Italian troops alone. With this view, the King of Naples is at the present moment organising a body of 20,000 men, which he promised Pio Nono, during his residence at Gaeta, that he would place at his disposal. The whole of these troops are to adopt the Pontifical cockade, and to protect the Holy See, along with the 12,000 men whom the Pope has already in his service.

GERMANY.

The Corporations of Dantzic, Stettin, and Schwedt, have, on the occasion of the anniversary of the accession of M. de Manteuffel to the Presidency of the Ministry, voted him the freedom of those cities, which were on the 18th presented to him by deputations. M. de Manteuffel said—"It is true that it is necessary for peace to be preserved, and I hope that it will be possible, whatever may be now the threatening aspect of affairs. I maintain, and the King has approved of my view of the subject, that Prussia ought not to meddle in affairs which do not concern her, and I hope that she will remain aloof from political complications. But I can never forget that she must in any event maintain intact her honour and her position."

It appears that the British residents at Berlin have hitherto celebrated public worship in the room of a hotel. Upon the representation of Lord Bloomfield, the King of Prussia has granted a wing of one of his palaces, which is to be fitted up as a chapel for the use of English residents or English visitors to the Prussian capital. A certain sum of money is to be raised by subscription for providing the chapel with sittings, pulpit, organ, &c., and all other appliances which may be necessary for the celebration of Divine service. The act is a most liberal one on the part of the King.

A letter from Freiburg (Baden), of the 18th, states that the Jesuit missionaries have been ordered by the authorities to leave the place within a week. A similar order was issued about a month ago, and withdrawn by the Regent, in the hope that the parties concerned would profit by the indulgence. The Chambers have been convoked for the 9th of January. The Catholics remain refractory. An Austrian mediation is mentioned as probable.

The harvest in Prussia has not been so bad as was expected, and there is no fear of scarcity. From most parts of Germany the report is the same.

The Austrian Budget for 1854 shows a deficit of 45,000,000 fl. under the head of ordinary expenses; while the extraordinary expenses create a deficit of 50,000,000 fl.

DREADFUL TRAGEDY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The *North State Whig*, published at Washington, North Carolina, contains a report of the trial of the Rev. George W. Carawan, a Baptist minister, for the murder of Mr. C. H. Lassiter, a school teacher, in Hyde county. Carawan was fifty-six years old, and for many years had been a popular preacher in the Baptist Church—a man of strong will, exercising a powerful influence over his friends, and feared as much as hated by his foes. Lassiter was a quiet young man, engaged in the business of teaching. Some months before the murder, Lassiter boarded in the house of Carawan, and a quarrel arose between them, Carawan alleging that Lassiter was too familiar with his (Carawan's) wife. Carawan talked very freely among his neighbours on the subject—said that Lassiter ought to be shot—that shooting was too good for him, and that he and Lassiter could not both live in the same neighbourhood, &c.—and finally tried to get out a peace warrant against Lassiter, alleging that he had attempted to take his life. He went on this way for some time, when Lassiter sued him for slander, laying the damages at 2,000 dollars. A few hours after the writ was served on Carawan, Lassiter was killed, and his body was found in the swamps behind Carawan's house, in an open lot which was surrounded by briars, underbrush, &c., and covered with moss. The moss over the grave had been carefully removed, the grave dug just large enough to hold the body, the body pressed into it, the grave filled up even with the surrounding earth and pressed down, and the moss carefully laid back upon it. Carawan fled, and went up and down the country preaching in an assumed name. It was proved at the trial that the prisoner had offered the witnesses enough to go out of the way. The jury, after a protracted sitting, brought in a verdict of guilty, and the judge ordered a recess of the court for an hour. As the crowd was leaving, the prisoner suddenly drew two pistols, one of which he fired at Mr. Warren, the counsel for the State, and with the other shot himself through the head, killing himself instantly. The ball of the other struck Mr. Warren on the breast just above the heart, but fortunately glanced off and only left a slight wound. The *North State Whig* says: Carawan maintained his self-control throughout the trial. He was as fine-looking a man as one would find among a thousand—tall, admirably built, with a massive head, showing, with enormous animal passions, large intellect. These passions have destroyed

him, he having given himself all his life to their unbridled sway. His wife, apparently about his own age, and his children, had been with him during the trial, accompanying him to and from the court-house and gaol.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Guthrie, has been printed. It derives its main interest from the fact that it propounds the Government plan for the revision of the tariff. In the first place, the list of free articles is enlarged so as to take from the revenue eight millions of dollars. The next point is that there will be only two classes of duties; articles specified at 100 per cent. *ad valorem*; and all articles not specified, except those in the free list, at twenty-five per cent. *ad valorem*. These modifications it is not proposed to effect until the 1st January, 1855. Together they reduce the revenue by 12,500,000 dols. The estimates for the current fiscal year are—income, 56,572,079 dols.; expenditure, 46,203,325 dols. Since the 1st July, 1852, up to the 3rd December, 1853, the purchases of the public debt amount to 16,064,929 dols. The total imports and exports for the fiscal year, ending 30th June last, were—imports, 267,978,647 dols., these including 4,201,382 dols. of foreign specie; the exports, 230,452,250 dols., of which 27,486,875 dols. were specie. The Secretary of the Navy recommends the appropriation of five millions of dollars to build steam-frigates. He says that there are not forty ships which, if needed, could be brought into service in ninety days. The Secretary at War recommends the increase of the forces, from a minimum of 15,000 men, to 17,000 in peace, and in war to 27,000.

From Washington, we learn that the Senate had adopted a bill providing that the Secretary of that body should hereafter draw and disburse all moneys for the pay and mileage of its members. The members of the Senate had again given unmistakable expression to their disapprobation of the course pursued by the Administration, especially in regard to its manner of making selections for posts of high trust.

Congress had adjourned for a few days as a mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. William Rufus King, late Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate, who expired at his residence in Selma, Dallas county, Alabama, on the 18th of last April.

New York had again been the scene of another terrible conflagration, involving the destruction of upwards of 1,000,000 dols. of property; Harper Brothers' extensive publishing establishment and fifteen other buildings having been destroyed.

Martin Koszta had arrived in Washington. He had been honoured with interviews by the President and some of the Cabinet.

The Common Council of New York had voted 1,000 dollars to pay the cost of entertaining John Mitchell at Brooklyn. He was received by the Mayor. He has again delivered some violent anti-English speeches. On one occasion he renounced and denied, on behalf of his countrymen, the authority of the pretended laws made by the British Parliament, which he calls "a gang of conspirators, robbers, and murderers"—"a band of knotted tyrants, and enemies of the human race."

It is stated in the recent message of the Governor of Virginia, that in the three years during which the law of 1850 was in operation, to aid in the removal of coloured persons to Liberia, only 419 free blacks and slaves were removed from that State, at a cost to the Treasury of 5,410 dollars. Under the present law, which was passed the 6th of April last, 240 coloured persons have been sent to Liberia from Virginia, at a cost to the Treasury of 5,800 dollars, being at the rate of 480 per annum, sufficient, as is supposed, to prevent any increase of the free coloured population.

Of twenty-eight ships which reached New York in the month of November last past, all on their arrival had cholera on board, and several had lost one-ninth of their passengers on the voyage. On board these ships embarked for America 13,762 passengers. Of these 1,141 perished on the voyage, and between four and five thousand were attacked by the cholera, but recovered.

In the Sandwich Islands, since the resignation of Judd, the fever of public excitement had cooled down, and the violent Annexationist party was reported to have become very small in number.

Accounts from Lower California state that that territory had become a Republic. The Walker expedition, fitted out at San Francisco, had landed at La Paz, seized two Mexican Governors, lowered the Mexican colours, raised their Republican flag, fought and gained a battle, declared Lower California free and independent and a Republic, and had chosen a president and a secretary of the navy. All this was done in one week by a handful of men from San Francisco.

Advices from the city of Mexico announce that rich golden discoveries had been made at Senora. It was reported that Santa Anna intended to assume the title of Imperial Majesty on the 12th inst.

We learn from an American paper that an adventurous slave-owner of Kentucky ventured across the Canadian border in quest of some of his escaped chattels. On finding them, he began to urge the subject of their voluntary return, holding out to them the certainty of being well treated and well provided for in their old age, and contrasting their prospects if they returned with the cold climate of the Canadas, and the life of toil and privation they would be obliged to lead in the enjoyment of their liberty. While talking, they were walking towards the old, untenanted barracks, and, on reaching the barrack-yard, the runaways seized the hunter, and, tying his wrists together, they suspended him from the limb of a tree, when they proceeded to give him 100 lashes, well laid on with a stout raw hide.

No sooner has the yellow fever ceased its ravages in New Orleans than a fresh scourge has broken out in the shape of cholera. Up to the latest accounts it had carried off 214 persons.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The French Emperor has named Prince Napoleon President of the Exhibition of 1855.

The reported escape of Mr. Smith O'Brien for Australia has not yet been confirmed.

Cholera, to an alarming extent, is raging at Teheran, Tabreez, Broumia and other parts of the Persian territory.

Both Berlin and Paris send bitter complaints of the bad state of general trade, arising from the absorption of the whole means of the masses in obtaining the mere necessities of life at their present high price.

Engineers have been making the surveys for a railway round Paris, at a distance of sixty miles from the city, so as to form a communication with all the great lines that start from the capital.

The construction of the Panama Railway is pushed forward vigorously. The last advices state that 1,700 men were at work upon it, and two ship loads of Irish labourers were expected.

Abd-el-Kader lives a very retired life at Broussa, and occupies himself with the education of his children. His principal enjoyment in the day and through a part of the night is study and poetry.

Coffee-planting appears to be making progress at Natal. One gentleman states that he has no fewer than 100,000 coffee-trees, many of which promise to bear well this year.

The ports of Hamburg and Rotterdam being closed by the ice, no more steamers will be dispatched from the port of London to those cities. At Antwerp also, the channel is frozen to a distance of twenty miles below that city.

The Missouri Legislature has before it a bill providing that no married man shall be allowed to endorse a note without the consent of his wife; and that no endorsement shall be valid in law without such consent.

The Russian squadron in the Chinese seas—consisting of the Pallas frigate, the Olinawa corvette, the Wostock schooner, and the Prince de Menschikoff—visited Nangasaki on the 22nd August, and their crews were cordially received by the Japanese.

M. Elie de Beaumont has been elected Secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in the room of the late M. Arago. M. Dupin contested the place with M. de Beaumont. The number of votes were—M. de Beaumont, 29; M. Dupin, 17.

Mrs. Margaret Douglas has been tried and convicted at Norfolk, Virginia, for teaching coloured children to write. She was her own advocate, and spoke eloquently. On being found guilty, she was fined one dollar; but the judge, in passing sentence according to the statute, will condemn her to imprisonment for not less than six months.

Alexandre Dumas has written to a friend in America, with the following request: "Find for me, on the borders of the St. Lawrence, the Hudson, the Delaware, or the Ohio, a corner where I may spend my last days, and die in tranquillity under the sun of liberty." The *New York Tribune* states that Dumas has already confided several manuscripts to the hands of his agents, who have established a publishing-house in New York.

We have much pleasure in announcing the arrival of the ship *Indemnity*, with thirty-three passengers, including his Honour Mr. Justice Boothby, Mrs. Boothby, their family of twelve children, and Master Young, the eldest son of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor. The *Indemnity* has made a fine passage, although, for the last three weeks, Captain Vickerman reports very boisterous weather.—*Adelaide Observer*, Sept. 3.

Mr. Soulé, the son of the American Minister at Madrid, has fought two duels. The first arose out of the late ball-room quarrel with the Duke of Alba, who spoke slightly of the costume of an American lady. The two antagonists met and fought with swords; neither being able to wound the other, the seconds declared the honour of each satisfied. The second duel was fought with M. de Turgot, the French Ambassador at Madrid, for a reason not stated. M. de Turgot was severely wounded.

The Humboldt steam-ship went on the "Sisters" rocks in attempting to make the harbour of Halifax on her last outward voyage for Southampton. It became necessary to run her ashore near Portuguese Cove, twelve miles from Halifax. By the aid of several small steamers, the passengers and crew were taken off in safety, together with most of their baggage. Very little of her cargo, however, was saved, and by the last accounts her machinery sunk through her bottom, and the vessel was a total wreck. Captain Lines is stated to have an interest in the vessel to the extent of 10,000*l.*, and, unfortunately, he was not insured. The vessel was nearly 1,400 tons burden, and her insurances exceed 300,000*l.*

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND THE PRESENT CRISIS.

A correspondent of the *Times*, in a very sneering letter, makes the following inquiry: "What steps the Peace Society has taken in the present disturbed state of the East, towards bringing that unfortunate question to a peaceful and honourable solution?" To this question, Mr. Edmund Fry promptly and aptly responds through the same medium:—

The Peace Society does not assume to itself any diplomatic functions. It is an educational, not a mediatorial, organisation. It seeks to impress upon the public mind, throughout all countries, clear and just perceptions of the folly, waste, and wickedness of war, and to diffuse the teachings of Christianity in reference to this department

of the policy of nations. It seeks to raise everywhere a public sentiment which shall in time restrain all Governments from perpetuating this system of blood and woe.

From 1848 to 1851, when the nations of Europe were comparatively tranquil, the Peace Congress, in four of the principal capitals, gave the widest possible publicity to their proposals for the establishment of a settled and permanent system of international arbitration, by which all such disputes as that which now unhappily convulses the East might be amicably adjusted.

If those proposals have not been yet accepted, and Governments and people resolve again to enact the fearful drama of war, the responsibility does not, surely, lie at the door of the society. In your columns of the 1st December, "Leo" will find the most cogent reason why the Peace Society should not be called upon for any special interference at the present juncture. You very justly say, "It is not amid the roar of cannon, and in the fury of passionate conflict, that men or nations are led to sound views of politics."

If the efforts of the peace party appear quiet, they are not less earnest and faithful in what they believe to be the cause of truth, honour, and humanity. Their progress may be less rapid and dazzling than a passage-at-arms; but it is a satisfaction to know that every step of truth, though slow, is sure.

REFORMATION OF JUVENILE CRIMINALS. CONFERENCE AT BIRMINGHAM.

A conference on the subject of the reformation of juvenile criminals was held at Deco's Hotel, Birmingham, on Wednesday last. There was a very large attendance of gentlemen from all parts of the country, the Right Honourable Sir John Pakington, Baronet, M.P., presided; amongst his supporters were the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Calthorpe, the Mayor of Birmingham, Mr. M. D. Hill, Q.C., Mr. Adderley, M.P., Mr. M. Milnes, M.P., Mr. Joseph Sturge, the Rev. J. A. James, Capt. Perry, Capt. Tindal, the Hon. and Rev. W. C. Talbot, the Archdeacon of Coventry, Mr. Jellinger Symonds, Mr. Bass, M.P., Mr. Smith Child, M.P., Sir Francis Scott, Mr. Power (Recorder of Ipswich), Mr. Scholefield, M.P., Mr. Charles Sturge, the Hon. and Rev. G. M. Yorke, Mr. Muntz, M.P., Mr. Spooner, M.P.

The proceedings of the conference were opened by prayer, after which Wm. MORGAN, Esq., town-clerk of Birmingham (who, with the Rev. S. Turner, acted as secretary to the conference), read extracts from a large number of letters received from all parts of the country, expressive of regret at the inability of the writers to be present.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, in formally opening the proceedings of the conference, passed in review the action of the friends of the cause since the last conference, and concluded by expressing a hope that the Government of England would no longer be found to be sluggish—that the awakened public feeling would urge it on—and that this country would no longer delay following the examples set to us by all Europe and America. (Applause.)

The TOWN-CLERK then read the resolutions which the conference committee had prepared to submit to the general meeting.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY moved the first resolution, which was to the effect, that the conference adopted the conclusions of the select committee of the House of Commons, which had declared that a large proportion of the present aggregate of crime might be prevented, and thousands of miserable human beings who have before them, under the present system, nothing but a hopeless career of wickedness and vice, might be converted into virtuous, honest, and industrious citizens, if due care were taken to rescue neglected and criminal children from the dangers and temptations incident to their position. He spoke of the enormous cost resulting from a persistence in the present system. At Liverpool alone it was estimated that there was a loss of 700,000*l.* annually by mere pilfering; whereas one-third of that sum would go very far to carry out the objects which this conference had in view. In carrying out the reformatory system, he strongly impressed upon the conference the law of kindness. By the adoption of that principle the most beneficial results ensued; he had witnessed its effect instantaneous on the most hardened; even the worst of criminals melt under the influence of kindness; that was the great secret of the success of the ragged schools; and in the establishment of the reformatory institutions he recommended that in all cases there should be a small number at the commencement, gradually increased, by which means the whole number might be leavened so that the success of the institution might not be endangered. He recommended the union of voluntary labour with legislative enactments; by voluntary efforts alone could those minute, paternal, and individual exertions and appliances be brought to bear which were invariably attended with the largest amount of success. His lordship mentioned an instance or two of gratitude and thankfulness on the part of youths now in a distant colony, in whose reformation he had himself had concern. One young man had sent over a gold nugget, with a request that the proceeds of it might be appropriated to the assistance of schools in which he had himself received instruction.

Major MAIR, of the United Industrial School at Edinburgh, spoke of the warm interest which his fellow-labourers in that city took in the proceedings of the present conference.

The first resolution having been unanimously carried, Mr. ADDERLEY, M.P., moved the second, affirming that

The conference is of opinion that the country requires legislation for the encouragement of reformatory schools for children convicted of crime or habitual vagrancy, and that such schools should be founded and supported partially by local funds and partially by contributions from the State; accompanying it with a few remarks in reference to his bill before Parliament.

The Rev. J. A. JAMES seconded the resolution. As

an old inhabitant of the town, he expressed the deep obligation owed by the people of Birmingham for the present meeting. It was beautiful to see that, upon a question in which they had a common interest, they were there met to carry out a question which affected a class of the community. He (Mr. James) denounced the system pursued by some of the manufacturers of the town in the conduct of their establishments, but at the same time he did all honour to those firms who had taken every means to provide the boys and children they employed with a good education. (Cheers.) He contended that kindness and not severity was the process to be adopted for the reformation of criminals.

Several interruptions by the introduction of extraneous matter took place, and the chairman entreated the company to be as brief as possible in the discussion of the subject brought before them.

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE was afraid that in their zeal for legislative enactment they would be depressing voluntary exertions; for his part, he would rather that legislative enactment was deferred for a year or two, the Government in the meantime encouraging the efforts to establish these institutions as much as possible.

The Earl of HARROWBY concurred, in some extent, with Mr. Sturge in the opinion he had expressed. At the same time, legislation was necessary, in order to enable magistrates to commit to a school instead of a gaol.

Mr. POWER, Recorder of Ipswich, said that he approved of Mr. Adderley's bill so far as it went; but with reference to it, and especially the narrow limits of the second clause, he hoped to see it considerably stretched.

Mr. M. MILNES, M.P., thought that Mr. Adderley had done well in limiting his bill to a small surface; he hoped, however, that it would gain in expanse and breadth. One important question for consideration would be as to the particular species of crime to which these reformatory institutions should be chiefly opened, but looking to the pressing nature of the question, and the immensity of its importance, it appeared to him that there was no time for delay in the matter of legislation. He believed there was some anxiety abroad on the subject, and an idea was prevalent that punishments were to be altogether abandoned; he begged at once to state that such was not the fact; in some cases, corporal punishment would still be inflicted.

Mr. M. D. HILL, Q.C., protested against any such pernicious fallacy as Mr. Milnes had just broached; they were there because they were in advance of public opinion, and for his own part he would never lend himself, however humble he might be, to the continuance of a system simply to satisfy public opinion; he denied that young criminals were to be reformed by persistence in such punishments as Mr. Milnes had referred to, and whatever public opinion might say, he would never cease to inveigh against it so long as he believed it to be erroneous.

Mr. MILNES explained that this meaning simply was that a child should be subjected to the punishment suitable to a child.

Mr. JELLINGER SYMONDS agreed that some moderate chastisement, suitable to juveniles, would be found necessary.

There was a considerable, but somewhat desultory, discussion, in reference to the point as to the particular character of the punishments to be inflicted in the Reformatory Institutions; some gentlemen were opposed to any punishment whatever, whilst others were for a moderate degree of punishment, and the reception of the criminals at first into a species of Juvenile House of Correction. There was some diversity of opinion in reference to this matter in detail, and also with reference to the age at which youths should be considered as still not too old for reception amongst juvenile criminals. Sixteen was the age named, but Lord Harrowby said he would not pledge himself to be bound by any decision of this conference in the matter of never committing criminals to gaol who were sixteen years of age.

Ultimately one or two verbal amendments having been moved, the resolutions were put and carried as follows:—

That, in the opinion of this conference, every encouragement should be given to reformatory schools, supported by voluntary contributions, for the benefit of destitute and criminal children; and that power should be given to Government and to counties and boroughs to contract with the managers of such institutions for the education and maintenance of criminal children therein; such institutions to be under Government inspection.

That powers should be created for sending children convicted of crime or habitual vagrancy to reformatory establishments for sufficient time for their reformation or industrial training, or until satisfactory surties be found for their future good conduct.

That powers should be conferred in certain cases to apprentice boys on their leaving reformatory schools, or to adopt other measures for enabling them to commence a course of honest industry.

That, as a check to any possible encouragement offered to parental negligence, a portion of every child's cost of maintenance at a reformatory school should be recovered from the parents.

Mr. HILL, Q.C., announced, with reference to the 200*l.* for the best essay, offered by Lady Byron at the last conference, that it had been increased to 300*l.* in consideration of two of the essays sent in being of the highest, as well as equal merit. He further announced that her ladyship offered to defray all the expenses of a lecturer, if it was thought by this conference that the employment of such means would aid the object they had assembled to promote.

Thanks were then voted to her ladyship, and the matter was referred to the committee.

Late in the afternoon, the conference adjourned after a vote of thanks had been accorded to Sir John Pakington.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The public meeting on Tuesday evening was held in the Town Hall, which was nearly filled—upwards of 3,000 persons being present.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY, who occupied the chair,

said that in respect to the reformation of criminals, he was of opinion that it was desirable to combine Government grants with voluntary contributions.

In what other way, except by the desire of improvement implanted in the human mind, could they account for the vast numbers of ragged children who pressed in every direction to the uninviting discipline of the schools which had of late years been established? One institution in London, with which he was connected, had, during the last two years, received no less than 8,000 applications from men who had undergone their periods of sentence, praying in the most earnest and affecting manner that they might be admitted within its walls, although they were aware that they would be subjected to a strict, searching, and painful ordeal, as a test of their sincerity. They were exposed to a fortnight's solitary confinement upon bread and water, but during this time the doors of the establishment were open, and they were fully at liberty to leave if they chose, knowing that if they did leave they would never be allowed to return. Yet, with the knowledge that this severe test would be applied to them, no less than 8,000 persons had sought for admission within two years; and he had heard some of them say, with the most earnest entreaty, "For God's sake rescue us from our miserable position. We will undergo any test of our sincerity. Keep us a fortnight, a month, six weeks, if you please, in this solitary confinement, so that we have not to return to the horrible condition into which we have fallen." (Hear, hear.) By God's blessing, the result of the discipline and instruction afforded in such institutions had been that hundreds, he might say thousands, of persons had gone forth from them into different parts of the world to fulfil the great and noble duties of the Christian citizens. The difficulties in the way of permanent reformation were no doubt very great, but he was of opinion that the endeavours to effect permanent reformation had, in the great majority of cases, been unsuccessful in consequence of their neglect to superintend or care for criminals after they had quitted prisons and asylums. (Hear.) Could they wonder at the numbers of those criminals who, having been discharged from prisons, were speedily recommitted, when they considered the destitution in which such persons were sent forth, and the difficulties and temptations by which they were beset? (Hear, hear.) Let them consider the great and trying necessity to which such persons were exposed—the absolute necessity of daily bread. He had been told by many of these boys and men that, do what they would they found it utterly impossible to obtain the slightest employment. It was not surprising, under such circumstances, that they should consider self-preservation before the laws of the land; they committed offences, though not for the offences' sake, and they were again consigned to the punishment of a gaol. (Hear, hear.) He (the chairman) had once presided over a meeting consisting of about 350 of the most abandoned and profligate men to be found in the city of London. He attended upon their invitation. The meeting was held in the Minorities, and the object of these persons was to obtain his advice as to the best mode in which they could be extricated from their miserable condition. He believed that such a meeting was unparalleled in history. (Hear, hear.) These men gave him an account of their lives, and many of them said that such was their state of destitution, that, if something was not done for them, they must that very night commit some act of robbery in order to procure the means of subsistence. (Hear, hear.) Now, most of these men were placed in a position which enabled them to earn a decent livelihood, and on inquiring about them the other day, he was informed that there were not twenty who had resorted to their former courses. (Hear, hear.) The report of the reformatory school at Mettray in France entirely confirmed the fact, that if they wished really to reclaim criminals they must provide some asylum to which they could resort on their discharge from prison. But there was another mode of dealing with this subject which was still better—the mode of prevention. (Hear.) He had ascertained, from minute inquiries, that the whole number of children in London who were actually in a course of training for a life of fraud, theft, and violence, did not much exceed 3,000. Further inquiry brought him to the conclusion that the whole number of the professional thieves of London—he meant those who entirely depended for their subsistence upon robbery—did not exceed 6,000. He mentioned these facts to show that this seedplot of crime, which caused them so much perplexity and trouble, was limited in extent and was at present within their grasp. From the investigations he had made, he arrived at the gratifying conclusion—that not two in 100 of those persons who had reached the age of twenty, without falling into crime and evil courses, were ever guilty of dishonesty in adolescence or old age. (Hear.) He knew they would be told that education was the great panacea for many of these evils. No doubt that was most true, but something more must be given than mere education, according to the usual acceptance of the term. It must be remembered that the children of the working-classes were exposed to a thousand temptations which did not beset the children of the better classes. He might very briefly indicate some of those abominations which existed in all great towns, and which offered almost irresistible temptations to numbers of these helpless and ignorant children. First, there were the penny theatres. He had examined as many as 100 children, and he had ascertained from them that the first dishonesty of which they had been guilty was the theft of a penny from their parents or some other person, with a view of indulging their taste for the penny theatre. (Hear, hear.) He would also remind the meeting of the hazards to which these unfortunate children were exposed in what were called "casual wards." He was satisfied that if children were excluded from these places, and also from the low lodging-houses, one of the most prolific sources of early delinquency would be destroyed. He would also ask those whom he addressed whether the wanton and reckless exposure, in that and other cities, of articles of value and of food might not prove a temptation too strong to be withstood even by children who were not absolutely suffering from the pressure of want? ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He thought there might, also, in some cases, be an over-readiness on the part of persons who detected a child of tender years in the commission of a theft to bring him before a magistrate, who probably could not do otherwise than punish the offence with imprisonment. (Hear, hear.) Another great source of crime was the prevalence of receptacles for the purchase of stolen goods. Poor children were often led to commit a theft because they knew they could readily dispose of the produce of their crime to a receiver. (Hear, hear.) These were, however, subordinate considerations compared with the

monster evil of all—the gross indecencies, the terrible immoralities, the disease, and the filth which existed to so frightful an extent in the courts and alleys inhabited by the poorer classes. (Hear, hear.) None but those who had visited such places could form any estimate of the physical and moral influence thus produced upon the great mass of the rising generation, and he did not hesitate to say, that so long as this state of things existed they would establish reformatories or schools to little or no purpose. They might educate children at schools for four or five hours a day, but what advantage could result from such education if the poor children were sent back home to witness, during the remaining nineteen or twenty hours of the day, the most disgusting scenes and the most horrible debaucheries? (Hear, hear.) He would, then, urge those whom he was addressing to bestir themselves, and, if possible, to ameliorate and elevate the position and character of parents. (Hear, hear.) There was another class of unfortunate children to whose case he wished to direct the attention of the meeting—he alluded to the class of young mendicants and vagrants who were being brought up by their parents in habits of mendicancy, as a preparation for the more dangerous practice of violence and crime. (Hear.) He had no doubt the meeting would be surprised if he were to prove to them, as he could do, that a very large proportion of the ragged, sickly, miserable objects they saw in the streets, were the children of parents in the receipt of wages varying from 16s. to 20s. and even 40s. a week. This sum such parents consumed in drunkenness and debauchery, and then they sent out their miserable children to be ruined in body now and in soul hereafter, solely that they might obtain increased means for gratifying their disgusting and ruinous propensities. He hoped a law would be passed, providing that children found in the streets as mendicants should be consigned to the reformatories which it was their object to establish, and he considered that to all those reformatories should be attached a wing for children who were neglected but untainted with crime—(hear, hear)—where such unfortunate beings might receive that paternal care which their natural protectors neglected to accord to them. (Cheers.) He hoped that, when children were sent to those establishments, the parents would be compelled by law to contribute amply to their maintenance and education. (Hear, hear.) Great Britain had something more to do than to spend her time and strength in retracing her steps, in recovering what had been lost, and in chastising the guilty; her great vocation was to cover the world with the laws, the liberties, and the religion of the Anglo-Saxon race. (Cheers.) Let her send forth every year swarms of industrious, sober, Christian citizens to people the forty great colonies that composed her colonial empire.

Sir J. PAKINGTON, having given a brief sketch of the proceedings which had taken place at the conference in the morning, and of the resolutions which were then adopted, submitted to the meeting the following resolution:—

That this meeting, having received information of the proceedings of the conference held this day, in reference to the national treatment of "morally destitute and criminal children," expresses its hearty concurrence with the resolutions which have been adopted.

In the course of his observations, the right honourable baronet remarked,—That no one was more anxious than himself that the Government should speedily take measures to render sound elementary education universal in this country. (Cheers.) The right honourable baronet attempted to show, from Parliamentary reports on the subject of education, that while in Germany, Switzerland, and many parts of Europe, the proportion of the population educated in schools was one in six; in the free States of America one in seven, and in the slave States of America one in twelve; England was, in this respect, upon a level with the slave States, as only one in twelve of the English population was now receiving instruction in schools. The consequence was that the mass of our population were trained to crime, and he conceived that the remedy for the existing state of things would be the establishment of a universal system of education, combined with reformatories for those who had been led into crime. (Cheers.)

Mr. ADDERLEY, M.P., seconded the resolution, and observed that he had withdrawn the measure he had introduced into the House of Commons on this subject during the last session, after it had passed through two stages, in consequence of a promise made by Her Majesty's Government that they would take up the question during the ensuing session. He feared that other matters of apparently pressing importance might divert the attention of the Government from this subject, and expressed his hope that petitions in favour of a reformatory system would be sent up to Parliament from all parts of the kingdom.

The Rev. JOHN CLAY, chaplain of Preston Gaol, supported the resolution, and urged the importance of training children in industrial habits. He observed that in the three months preceding the strike at Preston there were committed to the gaol of that place 183 persons of either sex and of all ages. During the three months after the commencement of the strike, the number of committals was 162, although 7,000 children had been deprived of work; and he argued from this circumstance that the industrial habits which the children had acquired in the factories had in a great measure preserved them from criminal practices.

The Earl of HARROWBY proposed the second resolution:—

That this meeting trusts that the legislation which is held to be necessary for establishing industrial reformatory schools will encourage the enlightened and philanthropic managers of those institutions maintained by voluntary effort, which have already awakened public attention to the subject, and which ought to be fostered and multiplied for the sake of the varied and valuable experiences they are calculated to supply, the individual zeal and interest they enlist, and the opportunity they present for the immediate adoption of treatment towards criminal children different from the ordinary punishment of adults.

In the course of some brief remarks, the noble earl said he hoped the Government would encourage and foster institutions of this kind, but he thought they should take care that the Government never superseded private efforts and liberality.

Mr. M. D. HILL, Recorder of Birmingham, observed that the possibility of reforming juvenile offenders against the law had been established by the success of reformatory institutions at present in operation, although he had heard of a magistrate who had said he would walk 100 miles to see a reformed criminal. When he added that that magistrate was an alderman of the city of London, they would see how great a pedestrian feat had been

undertaken by a gentleman who had consumed countless tureens of turtle and haunches of venison by the score. (Loud laughter.) If he (Mr. Hill) were the conductor of that gentleman, he would take him to Red Hill, in Surrey, to Reading, to Bath, to Kingswood, to Hardwick Hall, to Droitwich, to Saltley, and to Aberdeen, where reformatory institutions had been established with success, and, when the worthy alderman had visited all these places on foot, he might, on his return to London, witness, perhaps, what was much more marvellous than the reformation of 10,000 juvenile criminals—a reformed Corporation. (Loud and continued cheers and laughter.)

Lord LYTTELTON briefly moved the following resolution:—

That the reformatories established privately in this and other countries have been very successful, and afford decisive proof of the practicability and fitness of the mode of treatment of juvenile crime which they have adopted.

The noble lord expressed his opinion that reformatories should be established, if possible by voluntary efforts, under the sanction of the Government, but that if private liberality did not meet the requirements of the case, it might be advisable that the Government itself should provide such institutions.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. WOOLRYCH WHITMORE, and was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. R. M. MILNER, M.P., seconded by the Hon. A. KINNAIRD, M.P., a resolution to petition both Houses of Parliament was agreed to.

RETURN OF LORD PALMERSTON TO THE MINISTRY.

The *Times* of Monday, with all the prominence that led type can give, announces, in the following terms, Lord Palmerston's return to office:—

It became our duty, in consequence of intelligence which had reached us, to state on Friday, the 16th December, that Viscount Palmerston had tendered his resignation of the office of Secretary of State for the Home Department, and had, therefore, ceased to form a part of Her Majesty's Government, if his resignation was accepted by the Crown. That announcement was strictly accurate, and accordingly Viscount Palmerston has not attended the meetings of the Cabinet which have been held since he expressed his intention to resign. It is, however, well known that the important office of Home Secretary has not been filled up or accepted by any other member of the Government; and we have now the satisfaction to learn that the resignation of Lord Palmerston has not been definitely accepted, but is withdrawn, and that the Secretary of State for the Home Department will retain—we can hardly say resume—his former position in the present Administration. Explanations, honourable alike to all the parties concerned in this transaction, have been exchanged, and, as the difficulties which had arisen between Lord Palmerston and his colleagues, were limited, as we have already stated on a former occasion, to the question of Parliamentary Reform as dealt with by Lord John Russell, it has been found possible, without any sacrifice of principle, to place the Government again on a united, and we hope a permanent, basis. To be candid, there had been too much precipitation on all sides in this matter. Lord Palmerston expressed his intention to resign as if some vital principle of the Constitution were in dispute and the provisions of the new Reform Bill were irrevocably settled, neither of which suppositions was true. The difference of opinion was thought to be more serious and more fatal to the union of the Cabinet than it has since proved to be by those members of the Government who alone were in full possession of the case.

But no Cabinet Councils were sitting at the time, and the step appears to have been taken without a distinct communication on a question of such extreme importance to all the Ministers of the Crown, several of whom were not in London. Upon a fuller consideration of the whole subject, and an explanation of the condition in which the projected measure of Reform now stands, it was found that no imperious dictates of conscience and of duty, by which alone such a step could be justified, did, in this instance, require so great a sacrifice. The zealous mediation of the Duke of Newcastle, the sagacious and patriotic advice of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and, we must add, the excellent temper and public spirit shown by the Ministers most nearly engaged in this discussion, have led to this satisfactory result; and it would have been utterly unworthy of the high position and motives of these statesmen if they had hesitated for a moment to retrace a step taken under some misconception of the cause to which it was alone attributable.

The *Times*, after expressing its high gratification at the event, and its feeling of the necessity of a union of all Liberal statesmen, at the moment when the British Empire is about to stake its honour and its power on the hazards of war, and reluctantly to take up arms for the first time these forty years against one of the greatest States in Europe, concludes, by saying:—"Lord Palmerston's return to office is not the triumph of one section of the Cabinet over another, nor has it been purchased by concessions or arrangements, which can produce any alteration in the course of public policy; but it is the triumph of union and public spirit over a partial dissension, and it gives a fresh security for the duration of a Government which is identified with the best interests of the country."

The *Morning Chronicle* of the same day contained an announcement similar to the *Times*. The *Peelite* journal states that the noble lord "resumes—or, more strictly speaking retains"—his position, and the English Ministry presents once more a firm and unbroken front to Europe. The name of Palmerston is a symbol of pluck and public spirit,—a sort of epitome of all that is most English in the English character. The termination of the Cabinet differences will disarm our enemies and re-assure our allies; and we are called upon to rejoice, that we are governed by men who continue to sacrifice minor differences of judgment for the sake of effectively furthering great and high ends of national policy.

The *Daily News* of Monday thus accounts for this issue of a nine-days' resignation. On the tenth day, Lord Palmerston's deserted and disconsolate colleagues were still to seek for an eligible successor. His vacant office had been hawked round the narrow circle of conventional eligibilities; but all of them had declined the offer. Sir James Graham was of opinion that the Admiralty was a more congenial berth for him. Lord

John Russell had no desire to encumber himself again with a load of departmental business. Sir George Grey had misgivings as to the reception his appointment might encounter in public. So many declinations brought the Coalition to their wits end; only one other possible arrangement seemed to remain; viz., to coax Lord Palmerston back again. And, accordingly, his lordship has had long remonstrative visits inflicted upon him by divers members of the Cabinet; and his and their friends out of doors have been for the last few days busy demonstrating, to their own conviction if not to that of their hearers, how desirable it is that the noble viscount should quietly return to Downing-street, and how perfectly consistent such a termination of the *fracas* would be with the dignity and self-respect of all parties concerned.

Yesterday, the Liberal journal, possessed of fuller information, comments with deserved severity upon the tergiversation of the *Times* in alternately condemning and lauding Lord Palmerston. "The political lunatic of the 16th is said on the 26th to be a great master of diplomatic subjects, bringing to them an extraordinary amount of political experience, combined with great fertility of resources and natural energy," and so on.

So much for Lord Palmerston, who must chuckle amazingly at the extraordinary rapidity in which, for party purposes, he is metamorphosed from a sinner to a saint. We believe we indicated the true estimation in which the intelligence of the nation held Lord Palmerston, by a reference to the thermometer of the pocket. We pointed out to our readers the fact that the effect upon the funds of the announcement of the Home Secretary's resignation was—half-a-crown. We asserted also, what is well understood in the political world, that Lord Palmerston has scarcely any "following," and that his influence has been overrated. And we are sure that this opinion is that held by the majority of the nation. What then must the public think of the daring disregard of all political consistency which is exhibited by political writers, who do not hesitate to make a monster or a saint of a man who is neither the one nor the other, to suit each change of the compass of party?

THE CIVIC ELECTIONS.

On Wednesday last, St. Thomas's-day, the shortest in the year, the usual meetings of the wardmotes were held, for the purpose of electing common-councillors and other officers. There was little opposition. In the ward of Cripplegate Within, Mr. Bennoch, who recently resigned in some displeasure, was replaced by Mr. B. Spilsbury, Mr. Bennoch receiving an eulogistic vote of thanks. In the ward of Candlewick, Mr. Jeremiah Evans retires, after thirty-two years' service, with the special thanks of his fellow-citizens, and is succeeded by Mr. Matthews. In Walbrook, Mr. Watkins retires, after thirty years' service, with a vote of thanks, and Mr. Fry is elected.

In several of the wards, the topic of discussion was the Royal Commission; and in some cases specific opinions were formally expressed in resolutions. Aldersgate congratulated the citizens on the inquiry now in progress; and while declaring its undiminished attachment to municipal institutions as the bulwarks of constitutional monarchy and the preservation of self-government, hoped the inquiry would result in "an efficient measure of corporate reform." The resolutions of the ward of Cripplegate Within demanded extension of the municipal franchise, so that all ratepayers might have votes, and an abolition of the restrictions on trade. The ward of Farringdon Without, itself one-fifth of the City, trusted that the commission would lead to a great improvement, so that the Corporation might be made "a pattern of sound, efficient, and useful municipal government to the metropolis and the country."

The arguments on the opposite side were confined to assertions that much of what had recently been said remained to be contradicted, and that a great deal of good was in reality derivable from municipal institutions. Even in Billingsgate the language employed was extremely moderate. The Lord Mayor, who there presided in person, observed that "the City did not object to the inquiry, though it had taken a character that the City did not expect." He considered it very gratifying that "no case of individual corruption had been proved," and that justice had always been well administered in the City, adding that, "unless the opinions of the citizens had very much changed from those of their ancestors, they would not quietly submit to have their ancient rights and privileges entirely abolished. Alderman Copeland, in Bishopsgate, said that 206 common councillors had attended 874 times to public duties within the 300 working days of the past year, and wished to know whether the "great merchants and bankers," who were to succeed the laborious and unpretending functionaries of the present Corporation, would devote as much of their time and attention to such affairs? He confessed, however, that the Corporation had too many officers, and paid them too highly, but this system, which he said he had always reprobated, he thought was "the only blot upon their escutcheon."

Mr. D. W. HARVEY, City Commissioner of Police, delivered an interesting lecture on Tuesday, at Kelvedon in Essex, on "the Rights and Duties of Labour." The occurrence is remarkable on account of the position of the lecturer, and the nature of the audience, "many neighbouring agriculturists being present." Mr. Harvey dwelt on the necessity of effecting better relations between masters and men; urged upon the former greater attention to the comforts of the latter; and insisted that if the rights of the labourer were recognized, the recognition would speedily be followed by the cheerful observance of recognised duties on the part of the working-classes. At the close of the lecture, Mr. Mechi moved, and Mr. Varenne seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Harvey; which was carried by acclamation.

Science and Art.

A day or two since, the indefatigable Mr. Mechi delivered a lecture at the Society of Arts on "British Agriculture, with some of his own operations." He showed what a revolution was likely to be caused by the steam-engine. Respecting Mr. Romaine's steam-cultivator, and Mr. Usher's steam-plough, he thought both might be made sufficiently powerful to work forty acres or even one hundred acres a day. The former machine would, if required, deposit the seed and roll the land at the same time; and when not cultivating, it would be available for driving the threshing-machine, mill-stones, irrigating-pumps, chaff and turnip-cutters, and cake-breakers. The new American threshing-machine was an implement that would supersede ours in cost, utility, lightness, durability, and general economy; but instead of working it by horse-power, as had been proposed, he had attached a small portable steam-engine of four-horse power to the machine, and proved its advantage over a relay of eight horses.

The great project for a system of telegraphs between Europe and America, running along the islands of the North Sea—from the Orkneys to Shetland and the Faroe Islands, thence to Iceland, Greenland, Davis Strait, and the shores of Labrador, and so on to Quebec—is occupying some attention in America, where its necessity is doubted, and its feasibility is denied. No doubt a series of lines traversing so many seas, and passing through countries so little reclaimed by man from the wildness of savage nature, would be difficult to maintain in good working order. But the question is, whether the magnetic fluid can be conveyed along wires uninterrupted for three thousand miles? If not, then the shorter stages must be found, at whatever amount of inconvenience. The *State of Maine*, an American journal, on the authority of Mr. Stephenson, the engineer, affirms that it may.

The *Official Venice Gazette* states, in a special article, that the Olympic Academy of Vicenza, having carefully examined the discovery made by their fellow-citizen Tremenchini of electric telegraphy by secret transmission, has publicly declared it to be a successful invention. The results of the inquiry are said to show—first, that the apparatus of Tremenchini may be applied to Morse's telegraph; secondly, that when the dispatch is sent secretly it can only be received so, any fraud in that respect being subject to immediate detection; thirdly, that secrecy may be suspended or applied at pleasure.

The colouring of statuary is now an open question in the artistic world, and has given rise to much discussion.

During the past quarter, the Society of Arts has received into union thirty literary, scientific, and mechanics' institutions. These institutions are—Birmingham Polytechnic Institution; Bradford (Wilts) Literary Institution; Buckingham Literary and Scientific Institution; Buntingford Literary Institute; Bury St. Edmund's Athenaeum and Suffolk Institute of Archeology and Natural History; Clapham Literary and Scientific Institution; Coalbrookdale Literary and Scientific Institution; Derby Railway Literary Institution; Dursley Young Men's Society; East Retford Literary and Scientific Institution; Farnham Mechanics' Institution; Galway Royal Institution; Gateshead Washington Chemical Works Reading Institution and Library; Hampton (Middlesex) Literary Society; Hereford Permanent Library; Hexham Mechanics' Literary and Scientific Institution; Hitchin Mechanics' Institution; Hyde Mechanics' Institution; King's Lynn Free Library; Louth Mechanics' Institution; Market Drayton Society for the Acquisition of Useful Knowledge; Portsea Watt Institute; Preston Literary and Philosophical Institution; Redruth Institution for the Promotion of Useful Knowledge; St. Austell Literary Institution; Sheffield People's College; Spalding Mechanics' Institute; Stourbridge Mechanics' Institution; Tottenham Literary and Scientific Institution; Yarmouth (Great) Parochial Library and Museum. The total number of institutions now in union is 319. During the same period 116 members have been elected, making the total number of members, independent of institutions, 1,489.

The arrangements for Paris Industrial Congress of 1855 are being rapidly completed. It has been decided that the building in the Champs Elysées, which is now nearly completed, is to be considered merely as a permanent centre, round which the especial buildings, necessary for this great occasion, are to be erected. It is said that the total space to be covered will equal that occupied by our own exhibition in Hyde-park.

At the Gallery of Illustration in Regent-street, was opened, on Saturday last, a series of extremely effective Polar views, illustrative of Polar adventure and incident—the whole, or nearly so, being taken from the spirited sketches of Captain Ingfield. Not having had an opportunity of visiting the exhibition, we borrow the following description from a contemporary: "The first picture is of a Polar bear hunt. Huge icebergs float around, and on the open water in the centre a boat's crew are engaged with the furious animal. Then follows a scene still more desolate. The ice is as hard as iron; not a drop of water to be seen, but high perched on poles of ice, a gallant ship is seen, having been forced up by the 'hummocks,' and then frozen fast in her perilous position. This, it appears, is a frequent occurrence in Arctic voyages, and the only chance of escape is to blast the surrounding ice with gunpowder—an expedient that was more than once tried by Captain McClure with success. The aurora borealis is, of course, not forgotten. A beautiful illustration is given, and a ship is seen slowly making its way along the coast by the light of its fitful illumination. After one or two scenes of a similar character, the series concludes with a seasonable picture of comfort. It is the lower deck of the Investigator, as it

appeared on Christmas-day, 1852—the men all enjoying themselves under the auspices of their gallant captain, upon an abundance of venison and wild fowl, and magnificent plum-puddings of truly national dimensions.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.

No change can yet be reported in the position of the contending parties in Preston. The returns show that the number of unemployed hands relieved last week was 15,781; the preceding week, 15,502—increase, 279. The amount paid to the hands last week was 2,938*l.* 12*s.*; preceding week, 2,908*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*—increase 30*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* Add to these the expenses and the total amount will be 3,213*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* The expenses, exclusive of relief, are about 5 per cent. on the sum collected.

The operative spinners had a meeting in the Temperance Hall on Friday night, when, after a series of speeches, the annexed resolution was adopted: "That we, the operative spinners and minders of Preston, do still resolve to have our just and equitable demands before we resume work." Votes of thanks were passed to the trades of England and to the Blackburn masters, the proceedings being wound up with cheers for the 10 per cent.

A general meeting of the unemployed was convened in the Orchard on Saturday afternoon. As usual, there was a very large attendance. The principal topic of the speakers was the charges brought against the leaders of the movement, of dishonesty in disposing of the moneys committed to their hands. They, one and all, challenged investigation. Mr. Walton, one of the speakers, said it had been proved, by the *Preston Guardian* of that day, that the working expenses had always fallen short of nine per cent.; and this week they only amounted to five per cent. upon their income. Mr. Cowell concluded a speech to the same effect, by saying: On the whole, I think you look as well as when you ceased work. You who are prepared to play—who are prepared to live upon the union allowance, small as it may be, and to wage war with the manufacturers until an unconditional ten per cent. is awarded to you—hold up your hands, and don't put them up unless your hearts and souls go with them.—(The response was unanimous and followed by cheers.) Cheers were then given for Blackburn, Stockport, and their allies, and for the ten per cent., the proceedings concluding, at four o'clock, with the usual compliment to the chairman. The card-room hands also held a meeting on Saturday afternoon, in the Temperance Hall, and, having been addressed by several delegates, pledged themselves to persevere in the struggle.

A reply to the factory operatives' memorial to Lord Palmerston has at length been received. It is dated Dec. 24, and signed "H. Waddington." The noble lord says he has delayed answering the memorial, in the daily hope that he would hear of an amicable settlement of the difference. He had read the memorial with much sympathy and deep regret, and felt bound to do justice to "the temper and moderation" with which it had been drawn up. But he had no means of interfering to apply a remedy, nor was he in a position to form a just opinion of the merits of the dispute, nor did he, as a member of the Government, possess any right or power to interfere in the matter. In the "most friendly spirit" Lord Palmerston then enlarges upon one or two general considerations, as to the evils of strikes, and the danger of foreign competition, seeing that the foreign demand depends upon the cheapness with which manufactures can be sold. Their price must depend mainly upon the cost of production of that which the wages of labour form a material portion.

Therefore, as our exported manufactures must always be running a hard race with the similar manufactures of other countries, an apparently flourishing trade may possibly be checked by an increase of wages, which would add to the cost of production, and the gains made by the manufacturer may often consist of a very small profit upon each separate article, the aggregate amount of gain depending on the quantity exported, and that quantity depending on the cheapness of the commodities, which cheapness again is governed by the cost of production.

In directing me to submit these general reflections to the consideration of the memorialists, Lord Palmerston does not mean to give any opinion on the immediate subject of dispute, but his lordship would earnestly entreat the working men to lay aside those feelings which are too apt to be engendered by a struggle, and to endeavour, if possible, to come to some arrangement with their employers.

The associated manufacturers of Bury have issued a "notice," in which they state that they have agreed to give permission to the masters whose hands are now on strike to resume work for four days in the week, on condition that no collection be made amongst the workpeople for the support of either local or distant turn-outs. They hope that both parties will rely solely upon that system of individual arrangement, without which, neither workmen nor masters can enjoy long-continued prosperity. In consequence of this notice several thousands of the operatives held a meeting on Sunday, in Union-square, to which place they marched in procession from their several committee meetings. The following resolution was unanimously carried: "That this meeting is of opinion that the notice of our employers now posted on the walls of this town be rejected, and that we accept nothing less than the free exercise of our own opinions on all subjects affecting our rights and privileges as Englishmen." After the passing of the resolution the people were admonished to retire peaceably, which they did accordingly.

LORD DERBY has been the greatest winner of stakes in horse-races this year; exclusive of allowances for running second or third, he has won 13,039*l.* Mr. Bowes has won 11,070*l.*, the Marquis of Exeter 8,165*l.*, and Baron Rothschild 6,538*l.*

Tato, Assize, and Police.

A trial, arising out of the late Carlow election, involving Mr. Sadleir, M.P., was for several days last week before the Dublin Court of Exchequer. The plaintiff was Mr. Edward Dowling, a Carlow voter, who brought an action against a Mr. Lawler for false imprisonment. According to the statement of Mr. Whiteside, counsel for the plaintiff, the arrest arose in this way. Dowling had money dealings with a Mr. Crotty. Crotty accepted two bills for Dowling, and obtained a bond of indemnity for double the amount from him, and entered judgment on the bond, as security. The bills lay in the Tipperary Joint Stock Bank; the manager of which, Mr. O'Shea, was a supporter of Sadleir. Dowling refused to vote for Mr. Sadleir; and thereupon it was resolved to arrest him before the polling-day. The bond was the pretext, and Dowling was arrested. Mr. Sadleir, on his examination, admitted that he carried the bond to a Dublin solicitor and instructed him to arrest Dowling; but he said that he did this believing the claim of Crotty to be *bona fide*. He also admitted that he was willing to get Mr. Dowling arrested by legal and proper means, as Mr. Dowling intended to vote against him. The case was brought to a close on Friday. The Chief Baron having delivered his charge, the jury almost immediately brought in a verdict for the plaintiff on all the counts. The effect of this will be the release of Dowling from duress, free from all liability, as far as the two disputed bills are concerned, and the probable institution of an action for false imprisonment and conspiracy to deprive the plaintiff of his right to vote at the Carlow election.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, a smith has obtained 100*l.* damages from the Eastern Counties Railway, for injuries sustained by his wife. The train had stopped, and porters were opening the doors, but just as the plaintiff's wife was getting out, there was a sudden jerk, and she was thrown between the carriage and platform. Lord Campbell made some severe remarks upon the defective arrangements at the station—North Woolwich.

The Arches Court was occupied for eight days last week in hearing a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights, promoted by Lieutenant Money against his wife, brought to this court by letters of request from the diocese of Bath and Wells. Mrs. Money pleaded, in bar to the suit, the cruelty of her husband, and prayed a divorce by reason of that cruelty. There was plenty of evidence in support of her allegations. It was stated that she was obliged to leave her husband three weeks after their marriage. The real object of the suit was to get rid of the allowance of a maintenance to his wife. The husband makes a general denial to the above allegations. Judgment has not yet been passed.

In the Vice-Chancellor's Court, on Friday, Sir W. P. Wood granted an injunction to restrain the Rev. Francis Morse from performing Divine service in the church of St. Mary Shrewsbury, or from reading the Articles therein, or doing any act by virtue of his nomination to the office. Mr. Morse has been preferred, by the trustees to Mr. Sandford, the son of a Burgess of Shrewsbury; and according to the statute regulating the presentation, the son of a Burgess should, *ceteris paribus*, be preferred. It was argued, that the words "*ceteris paribus*" had a limited application; that is to say, that the person to be appointed should be "a fit and proper person," and "duly qualified according to law." And the Court so held. The Vice-Chancellor expressly stated that the "sole" ground upon which he granted the injunction was that Mr. Morse had not been appointed according to law.

William Anderson, a person about thirty years of age, who has carried on business in the City for some years, is in custody for uttering a forged bill of exchange for 2,250*l.* He was examined by the Lord Mayor on Wednesday: he concealed his face with a handkerchief, and sobbed repeatedly during the investigation. He took the bill to Messrs. Womersley and Burt, bill-brokers, to get it discounted. It purported to be drawn by "J. Le Brun," of Calcutta, and to be accepted by Van Notten and Co., of Lime-street-square. The brokers made inquiries, and found that the acceptance was forged: no money was advanced upon it. Anderson was given into custody. He attempted to escape from a house in Billiter-street, to which he had desired to be taken; there being two modes of egress. But Daniel Forrester pursued and recaptured him. Two bank-notes, one for 500*l.* and the other for 100*l.*, were found on him. Mr. Lambert Van Notten Pole deposed that the acceptance was forged; there is really no "Van Notten" in the firm; the supposed drawer is unknown to them. There is reason to suspect that other bills for large amounts which the prisoner has uttered are also forged. The Lord Mayor refused to take bail. His defalcations are now said to amount to between 130,000*l.* and 150,000*l.*

A curious case, in which a Belgian governess was the plaintiff, came before the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday. Mademoiselle Abrassant, a Belgian, brought an action against the Rev. Mr. Moysey, minister of Combe St. Nicholas, in Somersetshire, for breach of contract. The damages claimed were 22*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Mrs. Moysey had engaged the plaintiff at 50*l.* per annum; the engagement being subject, as she asserted, to the character given by Mrs. Blanche, a former employer of Miss Abrassant. Mrs. Blanche wrote a letter giving an unsatisfactory character; and Mrs. Moysey summarily and without due notice dismissed the plaintiff. The alleged reason for this step was, that Miss Abrassant had, at the house of Mrs. Blanche, several times called herself an infidel; had spoken of the Bible as an obscene book; and had said that our Saviour was too intimate with Martha and Mary. The evidence on this point was

very direct; but Miss Abrassant explained, that she had once, in friendly talk, jestingly said she was a Pagan, and denied the two latter allegations.—Lord Campbell, in summing up, said there was no doubt that a contract had been made; but it was for the jury to say whether the evidence showed that Miss Abrassant was an infidel, and had therefore obtained the situation by fraud. The jury found for the plaintiff to the full amount.

A person calling himself the Rev. Robert Gibson, an Independent minister, recently charged Mr. S. Kelly, a master printer, with a violent assault, before Mr. Norton, at the Lambeth police-court. The case was again heard on Friday. The witnesses produced proved the complainant to be unworthy of credit. Gibson had distinctly sworn, on a former occasion, that he had resigned his appointment of minister at Ebenezer Chapel, Bethnal-green, and indignantly denied that he had been turned off by the gentlemen in its management. A number of witnesses now proved the fact of his having been discharged from that chapel; and also of his having behaved in a most scandalous manner to several respectable women belonging to his congregation. They ultimately dismissed him in July last. Mr. Norton said it was much to be regretted that a person capable of such conduct as that proved should have held the appointment of minister in any chapel; and, believing that the attack was not premeditated, and the provocation very strong, he convicted the defendant in the nominal penalty of a shilling, and ordered him to keep the peace towards the complainant for three months, himself in 40*l*., and two sureties of 20*l*. each. Bail was given. It would appear from what transpired in the same court on Saturday, that Gibson is likely to be indicted for perjury.

Bishops find it sometimes not a little difficult to exercise their authority, as the following will testify: In the case of "Madan v. Karr," a suit in the Archdeacon's Court, promoted by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol against the Vicar of Berkeley for immorality, and in which the vicar was sentenced to be admonished, the Dean of the Archdeacon, on the ground that the expenses of the prosecution had been excessive, ordered each party to pay his own costs. The bill sent in to the bishop was resisted as exorbitant; the proctors took off 1,000*l*.; and the bishop had to pay only 3,600*l*.

A young woman, aged nineteen, who was sentenced at the Middlesex Sessions to six months' imprisonment, has been in prison no less twenty-one times, for periods varying from four days to three months, for frequenting houses with intent to steal, drunkenness, using indecent language, exposing fruit for sale, &c.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

A case of suicide and attempted murder, analogous to that of Mobbs, occurred on Saturday night. A workman, named Haas, a German, has been in the habit of treating his wife, a native of Lancashire, with great unkindness, apparently in consequence of suspicions of her fidelity. On Wednesday, his wife was confined, and ever since the poor woman has been the subject of repeated taunts from her husband. On Saturday, Haas was in a very excited state, and, during the absence of his wife's mother, whom he had taken out to make purchases, he rushed homeward, in a frantic state, and dashed into his apartment with a sharp-pointed Italian spring-knife open in his hand. His wife was lying in the bed with her infant at her breast. He made no observations, but furiously stabbed at her with the knife. She endeavoured to protect the child and herself, and thus received several severe wounds upon the fleshy part of the left arm and side; but fortunately none of them were of a decidedly fatal character. She screamed "Murder" with great violence, and succeeded in making her way past the man on to the stairs, where her strength failed her, and she fell exhausted and faint from loss of blood. She was taken into a room on the ground-floor, and medical assistance was immediately sent for. After which she was removed to the workhouse in Cleveland-street, but is not out of danger. The police, on entering the attic, found the dead body of Haas. His head was nearly severed from the neck.

Another attempted wife murder and suicide! On Monday, a law writer named Willis, aged sixty-one, came to his home, in a court leading out of Chancery-lane, between two and three o'clock in the morning, and, with a table-knife, attempted to cut the throat of his wife lying in bed. She struggled violently, and after receiving several severe wounds, she managed to get out of the room. Willis then cut his throat with a razor, and getting into bed covered himself up with the clothes. The police were immediately called in, and the parties were removed to King's College Hospital. The injuries of both are severe, and those of Willis dangerous.

There was a very extensive fire at Esher on Friday night, the Royal Paper Mills, an extensive pile of buildings, being burnt down. The conflagration was very extensive. At one time on Saturday morning, the flames were rushing out of 150 windows at the same time, and raged so close to the South-Western Railway as to cause the engine-drivers to stop on proceeding either up or down the line with the Christmas luggage and other trains. By the disaster upwards of 250 persons will be thrown out of employment. The origin of the calamity is unknown. It is supposed that the damage will exceed 100,000*l*.

It is feared that there has been wholesale infanticide in Sussex. A few days ago, a bricklayer, employed to repair the fire-place of a cottage at Ditchling, a village about a mile and a half from the Hassocks-gate-station, on the Brighton Railway, discovered the bodies, or rather the skeletons, of five infants. The house had been tenanted for fourteen or fifteen years by a woman who had recently been married to a

person named Maitland, and who is the mother of two illegitimate children still living. The neighbours deposed to a number of very suspicious circumstances, but the bodies being too decomposed to enable the professional witnesses to state with certainty whether the children had been born alive, the coroner's jury, on Saturday, returned an open verdict. The magistrates examined the woman on Monday, and remanded her.

Early last week there were great floods in Devonshire. On Monday evening, a train left Exeter, at Newton St. Cyres it was found that the line was impassable. The train put back for Exeter; but at New-bridge the rails sank, and the engine was thrown off the line. All around was a wide lake; and for ten hours, fourteen passengers, several ladies among them, were prisoners in the carriages; the attempts made to reach them with other vehicles having been fruitless. At four o'clock in the morning, the flood subsided sufficiently to permit of horses dragging the carriages to Newton St. Cyres. For a time traffic on part of the railway has been suspended.

Two young women of dissolute habits have been committed by a coroner's jury at York on a charge of "wilful murder" on Mr. Hall, of Snainton. The deceased attended the great Christmas Horse Show at York last week. While in a state of intoxication, in a lonely place, near the river Ouse, the two girls were seen by a man named Sargent, shoving him about, with a view, it is supposed, of robbing him, he having about 50*l*. in his possession. He endeavoured to beat the girls off, but was so much intoxicated as to be unable to do so. Sargent shouted to the girls, "Let the poor man go," but they took no notice further than to laugh at him, and they persisted in their attack upon Mr. Hall until they forced him gradually down to the water's edge, when one of them gave him a shove, and he fell backwards off the staith into the water. Sargent immediately procured assistance, and an ear was held out to the drowning man, but on account of the state he was in he was quite unable to help himself, and he was sucked under a vessel lying close by the spot. The girls ran off, but have since been apprehended and committed for trial.

A still more revolting murder has been committed at East Acton. On Monday in last week, the body of a boy was found in a ditch between East Acton and Friars-place. The boy is about fourteen years of age, and four feet six or seven inches in height; he had brown hair, a pale complexion, much emaciated, quite naked, and his body exhibits great marks of violence on several parts. It is supposed that he has been confined in a vault or cellar for some time, as the body was covered over with filth, and it is the opinion of the police authorities that it had been brought in a cab or car, and thrown into the ditch, as marks of the wheels of such a vehicle have been discovered in the snow, and from the discovery of fresh straw near where it was lying that it was covered in the straw during its transit from some part of the metropolis to prevent suspicion being raised, and, on reaching its destination, the party or parties at once disencumbered it and threw it into the ditch from the vehicle. It was discovered on Tuesday morning at nine o'clock by a carman of Hammersmith, named John Clarke, who was passing with his horse and cart. On Monday, at the inquest held before Mr. Wakley, the deceased was identified as the son of George Medhurst, a horsehair curler in Clerkenwell, and it was proved that while going home from work on the evening of Monday, the 30th October, he was decoyed away by a stout, full-faced man, who wore a light fustian coat, and drove away in a chaise with a small dark pony in it towards Shore-ditch. This is all the material evidence produced except that of Mr. Francis, the surgeon, who, after a post mortem examination, said he thought the condition of the lungs quite enough to account for death. The boy appeared to have had a very scrofulous constitution, and he did not think that any particular act of external violence was sufficient to prove fatal.—Mr. Wakley: Might the appearances you found be produced by ill-usage and starvation?—Witness: I think not entirely. I think there must have been disease before, for it is not probable that there could have been such an amount of disease in two months. But there could be no doubt from the evidence that death was accelerated by cruel usage, no food being found in his stomach. Mr. Wakley, addressing the jury: There are strong reasons to believe that this poor boy has been horribly and foully murdered. If the jury agreed with him he would make an application to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to offer a reward for the discovery of the man who took the boy away. It was a case bearing signs of such deliberate and cold-blooded cruelty, that every possible means should be adopted to bring the guilty parties, if such there be, to justice. The jury unanimously expressed their conviction that a foul murder had been committed, and thereupon the inquest was adjourned till Monday, the 9th January.

Unfortunately, the above does not exhaust the weekly catalogue of crimes of this nature. In Bermondsey, a whole family have been poisoned, and a boy has died. A man named Evans, at Caerleon, in Monmouthshire, a few days since, cut the throat of a woman who has passed as his wife, with a razor. The poor creature still lingers. At Girvan, Ayrshire, on Thursday, a woman named Mrs. Cunningham, while sitting at her loom, near the window, was shot at and killed. Her husband is in custody on suspicion. At Beith, a domestic servant, named Elizabeth Paterson, has been beaten to death with a metal bar, and the supposed perpetrator of the crime, a son of the girl's master, shot himself. At Brecon, a young woman named Wintle, has been committed for destroying her female infant child.

Postscript.

PROSPECTS OF WAR.

The news this morning from all sides is very warlike, and affords but little hope of a pacific solution of the Eastern question. The *Times* commences a leading article as follows:—

The time is approaching when we may expect to learn the answer of the Porte to the propositions transmitted from Vienna on the 7th instant. It is already known that these communications had been received at Constantinople on the 15th, that Redschid Pasha had been induced by the representatives of the four Powers to give them his support, and that they were to be taken into consideration by the Divan a few days later. Indeed, according to one telegraphic communication received through Paris, but as yet unconfirmed, it is stated that the Great Council had, on the 18th instant, authorised the Turkish Ministers to open negotiations. It is probable that the Turkish ministers will insist on the evacuation of the Principalities as a preliminary to negotiation, but, as that is a condition precedent which evidently could not be enforced, it is hoped that the Porte will content itself with a formal assurance that the restoration of those provinces forms in the eyes of all the Powers an indispensable condition of peace.

The leading journal, however, cannot conceal that the real difficulty to a pacific settlement is the Emperor of Russia himself. Every day brings us fresh evidence that he has availed himself of these pretexts chiefly to keep in check his most formidable opponents, to carry on his own plans of operation, and to bring the whole question in the spring to a more positive issue. Austria also is throwing off the mask.

The Austrian Government, already beginning to find that the hopes of pacification have come too late, and that the time for more energetic measures is at hand, has published in the official correspondence which is prepared at Vienna under the eyes of the Minister a mean and drivelling article, dictated, to all appearance, by the Russian Embassy. After stating that the four Powers are endeavouring to effect by pacific measures and moral influence the restoration of peace, the Austrian Cabinet expressly denies that "it has assumed a less friendly or menacing attitude towards Russia," and declares that "she has not in the least renounced her friendly sentiments towards her allied neighbour, and will not have to renounce them in future." The article adds, that the "intimate friendship between these two great monarchs is the surest guarantee for the peace of the world and for the conservative interests of Europe." The appearance of this declaration at Vienna at such a moment is, we fear, an evident proof that the independent portion of the Austrian Cabinet is unable to hold its ground, and that a degree of pressure has been applied which the enfeebled empire cannot resist.

In Sweden, we learn, from good authority, that an attempt has been made, by a mandate from St. Petersburg, to engage the Court in this contest, with a view to closing the Swedish ports, and eventually the Baltic itself, against English and French vessels. The Royal family is greatly in favour of Russia, but the nation, to a man, is against her. The article in the *Times* concludes with the following emphatic sentence: The course to be pursued by the maritime Powers is now clear and straightforward, and instructions are on their way to Constantinople which will cause the decided measures now agreed upon to be carried into immediate effect.

It was reported yesterday in Paris, that the English and French Governments had now very little hope of a pacific solution of the Eastern question, and were about to make preparations for an expedition to the Baltic early in the spring. Sir Charles Napier was to command the English fleet in that sea.

We (*Daily News*) have the best authority for stating that the Russian High-Admiral having recently inspected the *Csar's* Baltic fleet, one half of the ships were at once condemned as worthless, and it was determined to build, on contract, a number of screw line of battle ships—one account says no less than thirty!

War had been officially declared against Turkey by Persia.

The Shah of Persia has informed his Consuls of his intention to suspend diplomatic relations with Great Britain.

The Black Sea has of late been visited with violent storms. Eighty merchant vessels have been lost. The price of corn has risen enormously.

The *Paris Press* very positively confirms the story told by the *Independence Belge*, about the peremptory message lately sent by Louis Napoleon to the English Government. It is, moreover, perfectly true that Lord Aberdeen replied, without hesitation, without delay, on the very day the application was made, by the most complete adhesion to the categorical declaration of France. The orders given to the squadrons are said to be to cruise in the Black Sea in such a way as to constitute a sort of impassable maritime barrier from Varna to Battoum, not permitting either Turkish or Russian fleets to cross the line, but leaving each of them perfect freedom of action on their own side.

The rumour of Lord Palmerston's return to office caused a fall in the Paris funds.

The cold at Paris is intense; water freezes indoors, and the Seine is frozen over.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28.

During last week our supplies of grain were liberal. This morning our market opened by holders asking 4*s* to 5*s* per quarter more for wheat, but our buyers would not give more than 2*s* to 3*s* per quarter over last Monday week's rates, at which advance a good deal of business has been done. Barley, beans, and hog peas are 3*s* per quarter dearer, and white peas in request at an improvement of 2*s* to 4*s* per quarter. Oats fully 1*s* per quarter dearer.

THE NONCONFORMIST,

a first-class Newspaper, published every Wednesday Evening, Price 6d.,

Edited by EDWARD MIALI, M.P.,

was Established in 1841, and has secured the approbation of a large circle of readers and of contemporary journals.

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Articles on the leading Ecclesiastical, Political, and Social Topics of the day, written in a liberal and unsectarian spirit.

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During the past year, the *Nonconformist* has bestowed special attention upon all questions before Parliament involving the principles of Religious Freedom—has taken an active part in the Educational Controversy—given full information on the question of the hour, such as the historical and present relations of Russia and Turkey, &c.—repeatedly discussed Sanitary matters, and other social questions, including the Dwellings of the Poor, Juvenile Crime, Strikes, and the Law of Partnership, the Peace Movement, the Maine Liquor Law, &c.

A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM are now in course of publication.

The WEEKLY PARLIAMENTARY NOTES will be resumed with the ensuing Session.

Published by William Freeman, 69, Fleet-street, who will forward the *Nonconformist* for three, six, or twelve months on the receipt of a Post-office order for 6s. 6d., 13s., or 26s.

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The *NONCONFORMIST* is a family journal, and, as such, affords an excellent medium for advertisements of Assurance Companies, Schools, Philanthropic and Religious Societies, Books, Situations, and Tradesmen's announcements, &c.

The advertisement duty having been repealed, we charge according to the space occupied; viz., 6d. per line up to eight lines, and 3d. per line beyond eight lines.

For the convenience of country friends, we may state, that on the average, eight words are contained in a line, and that each line of CAPITALS is charged as two lines. ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.

The Terms of Subscription are (payment in advance) 26s. per annum, 13s. for the half-year, and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following subscriptions have been received, and are hereby thankfully acknowledged, on behalf of Messrs. Martin and Swale, of Boroughbridge:—

John Cropper, Esq., Liverpool . . . £5 0 0
John Bright, Esq., M.P. 2 0 0
James Sidebottom, Esq., Manchester . 1 0 0

GEORGE CROOK, Catterall.

We beg to announce that it is our intention, during the ensuing year, to give, once in about every Six Weeks, a LITERARY SUPPLEMENT of Eight Pages, containing Reviews of the most Valuable Publications of the day.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1853.

SUMMARY.

CHRISTMAS has come and gone. In the metropolis, and, we believe, pretty generally throughout the country, Monday was kept as a holiday. It was pleasing, as a sign of improvement in the spirit of the times, to witness in this immense emporium of trade, where gain appears to be the ruling passion, the voluntary surrender of an en-

tire day to recreation—shops shut, warehouses barred, the streets quiet as on a Sunday, and every train from every London terminus, bearing a heavy burden of excursionists into the country, to face the cold, and to breathe pure air. There was less inebriety visible than is usual on "boxing day"—probably because the holiday stood in the way of a pernicious custom, and because men who could get out of town were less tempted to spend their time, money, and health, in public-houses. Drunkenness is the besetting vice of the proletarian class—a vice which, we fear, will not be exorcised by giving them a gratuitous education.

It was a "merry Christmas"—a clear sky, a sharp frost, cold, without, and gaiety within. Alas! that public affairs should have been so out of harmony with ~~the~~ feeling! And yet, it cannot be disguised, that we are now upon the very brink of an European war, notwithstanding the universal of diplomatic activity. The latest tidings from the East are chequered. On the one hand, we are told, that the Porte will consent to a renewal of negotiation, on condition that the Principalities are first evacuated by the Russian army. On the other, we learn that the combined fleets have only been prevented from entering the Bosphorus, by a tempest which has strewn the coasts with wrecks of merchantmen. The tone of our "leading journal," generally pacific on this question, and supposed to reflect the views of the Cabinet, has become decidedly bellicose within the last few days, and it has spoken of war with Russia as an impending certainty. A great outcry has been kept up against the Government for want of vigour in their foreign policy, and open censure has been hurled at the Prince Consort as the primary cause of ministerial indecision. We think Lord Aberdeen and his colleagues suffer more obloquy than they deserve for their forbearance, and we hope that the blame cast upon Prince Albert is unmerited. At present, the information before the public is far too scanty for judgment in either case—but, assuredly, if war is inevitable, neither Ministers nor Prince, whatever may have been their motives, will have cause to regret that they tried every honourable means of averting it.

Lord Palmerston returns to the office he had so abruptly quitted, and the funds at Paris immediately fall on the transpiring of the news. Whether his lordship has cooled, or whether his colleagues have succumbed to him, remains to be seen. As he went out solely on account of his objections to a Parliamentary Reform Bill, one would think his return indicates a serious modification of the proposed measure. Of this, however, nothing is said. We suspect the noble lord halted on a pretext, and returned on discovering that he had committed a blunder. At any rate, he is in his office again, and his first public act, on his re-appearance there, is to write a letter of reply to the memorial of the operatives "on strike." His lordship enounces no novelty, but he calmly reasons with the men, on whose quarrel with their masters he judiciously refrains from pronouncing an opinion, and by the kindness of his tone, as well as by the clearness of his expository statements, contributes something considerable towards a better understanding between employers and employed.

We have elsewhere strung together some notes on the educational phases of the week. We cannot, however, refrain from expressing our heartiest sympathy with Lord Ashburton, in his attempt to give a more useful and practical direction to the education of the poor. If our working-classes are indifferent to schools as they exist, it is, probably, because they find them of little immediate value. An extensive and accurate knowledge of "common things," would conduce far more to their social comfort and their moral amelioration than some branches of science, a smattering of which is now given them. Let us not condemn the working-classes for apathy as it regards learning, nor pauperise their habits by making schools gratuitous, until we have put within their reach the kind of instruction which they really want, and which they would be able readily to appreciate. Lord Ashburton deserves, and will, we trust, realise, a gratifying measure of success.

That much remains to be done for the moral elevation of our industrial population may be seen in the dark catalogue of crimes it is our duty elsewhere to notice. Rarely, of late, has a week been so prolific of these manifestations of depravity and wickedness. Murder, suicide, infanticide—are topics we would fain leave out of view at this genial season. But faithfulness obliged us to record them, and to acknowledge how vast is still the moral waste that demands the active benevolence of the philanthropist and the Christian. May such sad passages in the nation's social life only deepen the tide of feeling which runs in favour of Reformatory Institutions and similar agencies for rooting out crime at its sources!

Amid the darkness that overspreads European politics, it is pleasing to notice the light of hope that beams upon us from one portion of down-trodden Italy. In Piedmont, constitutionalism triumphs, to the advantage of both sovereign and people. A few days since, the King re-opened his Chambers—returned to strengthen the hands of a Liberal administration—with gratifying demonstrations of a sympathy for his subjects. Almost simultaneously was inaugurated the Protestant Church at Turin, one of the first-fruits of the new system of toleration. The passive infidelity to the Papacy which, in other parts of Italy, finds no outward expression, here takes the shape of active zeal for Protestantism. Converts are already numbered by the thousand—a sufficient proof that if the human mind and heart have free play, and are not "cribbed, cabined, and confined," by State enactments, they are likely very soon to shake off the thralldom of priestly influences.

THE YEAR 1853.

With the present week will expire the year A.D. 1853. The few grains of sand left to it in the glass of Time will very soon have run out. Before it is numbered with the past, and history shall have claimed it as its own, it will be useful to take a hasty but comprehensive retrospect of its career, and, as we refresh our memory with its main features, to mark the lessons they suggest to our notice.

The year opened prosperously, but not auspiciously. There was bright sunshine above us, but clouds on the horizon. Commercial activity was almost unprecedented. Employment was general. Wages were rising. Food and fuel were cheap. Pauperism was everywhere decreasing. Money was plentiful, and the funds stood high. Free-trade was making its beneficence felt by all classes of our countrymen. The large importations of gold from our Australian colonies, and the deep and ever-flowing tide of emigration thither, at once augmented the sum of trade to be done, and drew off from the labour market its superfluous hands. Nothing appeared to go wrong but the weather. Even so early as January this had already excited some uneasiness. But hope predominated over fear. It was generally expected that as we had experienced five months of down-pouring wet weather, the spring would probably turn out dry and genial. In that anticipation we were disappointed. March was scarcely more favourable for agricultural operations than the foregoing November. A cold, damp summer followed, and was succeeded by a fitful and capricious harvest time. The calamity was not confined to this kingdom. France, Belgium, Italy, and Southern Germany, suffered to an equal or greater extent than ourselves. The price of grain, competed for by several nations, rose rapidly in every available market in the world. And a very few months sufficed to teach us how dependent we are for our prosperity on the will of Him who presides over the laws of nature, and whom winds and clouds, sunshine and rain, implicitly obey.

Several causes have been in operation during the past year to enhance the present dearth of food. The sudden expansion of our Australian trade, led to an immense absorption of shipping into colonial traffic, and when corn was wanted, it was found impossible to obtain vessels enough to fetch it, and such as could be got, charged, of course, the highest freight that could be given. Nor was this all. Misfortunes, they say, always came in clusters. The ripening Turco-Russian quarrel added embarrassments of its own to the

difficulties of the corn trade, and the granary of Europe was diminished in its supplies by neighbouring armies.

To these social disasters others must be added. About the beginning of the year, as we have said, wages were everywhere rising. The working-classes very properly were demanding their fair participation in the general prosperity. Unhappily, as we think, they listened to evil advisers, and, in too many cases, advanced exorbitant pretension. Wherever these were denied, they resorted to strikes, and it happened that just as the tide of social prosperity began to ebb, the work people had committed themselves to a struggle with their employers. The two things went on simultaneously. Whilst bread was every week becoming dearer, increasing numbers of our workmen were, out "on play." Christmas, therefore, finds us in a deplorable social condition. Our once pleasing prospects are suddenly blasted. Disappointed expectation has given place to angry recriminations, and bitterness of spirit. The fruit of several years' peaceful industry has been destroyed in as many months, and 1853 passes away from us a sadder, and scarcely a wiser, people than it found us.

We have first adverted to the change which during the year has been rapidly developing itself in the social circumstances of the people, because our fellow-countrymen are more immediately and more closely touched by them. But the political firmament, too, has been hung with gloom. When 1853 first dawned upon us, nobody dreamt of disturbance to the peace of Europe springing up from any other quarter than France. The Emperor of Russia was lauded by statesmen and diplomatists as the highest model of Imperial moderation, wisdom, and virtue—as the main stay of order on the continent—as the only trustworthy check upon the lawless ambition of Napoleon the Third. Again, the world was deceived in its favourite. Nicholas has unmasked the evil designs he had been long employed in gradually and silently maturing. Taking advantage of a temporary coolness between the Western maritime Powers, he put forward claims to a religious protectorate over the Christian subjects of the Sultan in the Danubian Principalities, utterly subversive of the Ottoman Monarch's rights of sovereignty. These claims he enforced with unparalleled insolence, and, being resisted, he seized the Principalities, in defiance of treaty stipulations, as "a material guarantee." The diplomatists of the Four Powers hastened to mediate, but, sooth to say, made bungling work of it. Their good offices failed, and the Porte, provoked beyond endurance, declared war against Russia. Every effort has been made, and wisely made, we think, to confine the conflagration within the territories of the belligerent Powers. Turkey has put forth unlooked-for strength, and has gained unanticipated successes. Along the whole line of the Danube, and on her Asian frontiers, she has not only held her own, but has gained upon her ruthless foe. On the Black Sea, however, spite of the presence in the Bosphorus of the combined fleets of Great Britain and France, the Russian navy has snatched an inglorious but fearfully destructive victory. The naval supremacy of Russia in the Black Sea will endanger the integrity of Turkey as a European Power. Accordingly, France and England stand engaged to prevent it, and their fleets are said to have received orders to enter the Euxine—an event which the Czar has forewarned us he will regard as a declaration of war. Thus we stand at the present moment. The current of events appears to be too strong to be resisted by statesmanship, and the probability is that 1854 will witness a fearful struggle between the European Powers, the duration and issue of which none can presume to predict.

To the growing and thickening difficulties of our foreign affairs, the domestic politics of 1853 offer a pleasing contrast. At the beginning of the year, a new Ministry, combining several shades of opinion, but strong in talent and administrative experience, took the direction of our public affairs. The experiment has worked satisfactorily, on the whole. Considerable progress has been made in developing the free-trade system, and our financial position has undergone a large remedial

change. The measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the reform of the Customs' administration, stamped the Government as one of progress, and diffused general satisfaction among the people. The surrender of the Clergy Reserves to the people of Canada evinced a determination to govern our colonial empire on sound principles. We wish we could accord similar praise to the measure for the better government of India. That it was an improvement on the system which it superseded cannot be denied; but that it was also a golden opportunity miserably thrown away by official imbecility, is, we think, equally clear. To the credit side of the Government we may assign several minor but useful reforms—to their disadvantage, we must recalc a few unworthy attempts to trundle to the ecclesiastical insolence of the times. The session of Parliament was one of the longest, and most laborious on record, and one of the fruits of it was the preparation which it necessitated for a new Reform Bill. Altogether, 1853 yielded us in the domain of home politics, a tolerably rich harvest.

We cannot conclude this review of the year without noticing the reappearance of the cholera. The pestilence has given us a third warning, still more terrible in its characteristics than the two former ones. Winter has temporarily suspended its ravages—but with lengthening days, and warmer weather, it will, almost to a certainty, reappear. The lessons it enforces with so much severity are seasonable and merciful. It bids us heed more carefully the habits and comforts of our poorer population. Polluted air, insufficient supplies of water, crowded dwellings, undrained streets and courts, are the very *pabulum* of cholera. Wherever the disease has gone, it has revealed frightful scenes of neglect and filth. Private enterprise is altogether unequal to the removal of this fostering gangrene—and, unhappily, our absurd law of partnership prevents every attempt at association for this purpose. But in this, as in other instances, 1853 is cutting out work for 1854. And the experience of the past, rightly interpreted, is giving wise and salutary instructions for the future. Thus each year is connected with preceding and succeeding years by an unbroken chain of causes and effects, and amid many vicissitudes, and some suffering, the nation makes advances "from strength to strength."

A WORK OF MERCY AND JUSTICE.

If the ecclesiastical authorities of Christendom had appointed, in the place of ritual observances, the performance of special works of benevolence for the season called Advent, they would, doubtless, have designated orphan or friendless children as the objects of those works; for, if at one time more than another it be right and meet to care for the little ones, who are born to worse than poverty, it must be that time when He, who being rich, for our sakes became poor, was about to enter at the manger on the path which led to the cross. And, if the commemoration of the grandest proof of the Divine compassion should shed over the adjacent days a peculiar radiance of love, on none could it be more fitly shed than on the woe-begone, sin-stricken, of an age, which is the very type of happy innocence.

There was, therefore, something of peculiar timeliness in the Birmingham Conference of last week. It contemplated—or, more strictly speaking, promoted—a work than which none appeals more strongly to the compassionate feelings of our nature. We are sometimes apt to forget, in pity for the offender, the turpitude of his offence; but, when children are the criminals, our pity can scarcely be misplaced or exaggerated. For, while their offences against God and man must be of necessity almost involuntary, their lot is one of unmitigated hardship, if not of unrelieved suffering. Whether driven or enticed into sin—whether the victims of destitution, of parental dissipation, or of hereditary depravity,—their circumstances are equally wretched. Cold and hunger must be their frequent portion—stripes and imprisonment their constant peril. They must often watch, through long hours, on the wet pavement and with naked feet, the article taken at the risk of extempore, if not formal punishment. What they get, they do not keep,—not more than a

fraction of its value; the harpy of "the leaving house" takes the lion's share of the prey. Whatever of animal enjoyment may be drawn from their mimic debauches or emulative adventures, cannot be set over against the simple pleasures which even poverty leaves to childhood. Their prison-life is not so destitute of terrors as the impudent air of the little gaol bird would have us believe. The substitution of rigorous confinement for absolute liberty,—of discipline enforced by solitude and bread and water, for license bounded only by the fear of kicks and blows,—the private whipping and the regular, low diet,—all these must strike with fear and aversion even at their tenth repetition. To rescue from a course of misery thus dolefully varied,—from the embrating hardships of street life, and the scarce less embrating severities of the prison,—and to do this in every one of many thousand instances of exposure or actual subjection,—is a work in the very spirit of the event which proclaims the satisfaction of justice by the regenerative work of mercy.

But, indeed, in the light which Christianity has cast on human relations, the reformation of juvenile criminals, in the place of their punishment, is demanded of us in strict equity. It is a speciality of the religion, which had its rise among the poor inhabitants of an ill-famed town in an obscure province, that it teaches the equal value of all human spirits—permits no permanent consequence to attach to temporal conditions, or other accident of birth. It is, perhaps, the grandest visible results of Christ's advent that, among the many millions that call him Lord, none pretend to his favour on the score of wealth, or the presentation of what wealth can purchase. The application of this idea is universally felt to be the leverage destined to uplift the lowest. Its employment in the case of the class in question, is obvious and powerful. There is no more striking point of the social inequality which now obtains, than the different treatment of young offenders in different classes of life. The theft of an apple is punished with vastly lighter penalties, and leads to no such serious consequences, in the son of a gentleman as in the child of the streets. The one only commits in sport a known moral offence, and receives only a schoolboy's chastisement for a schoolboy's fault. The other may pilfer in very hunger, and be punished by a night in the watchhouse. From the consequences of even positive legal crime, the rich man's gold may screen his son—repairing the loss and hushing up the complaint—while a wrong of less magnitude is visited on the giddy child of honest poverty with crushing retribution. For this unequal ministration, it is not so much the State as society that is to blame. The law drives on its iron chariot with blind impartiality, unconscious that not the least guilty are often snatched from its path, when the shadow of destruction is upon them. It is the public sense of right that must avoid this offence to justice, by providing for all young sinners a place of repentance—for the children whom orphanage, or the worst misfortune of parental wickedness, throws into the hands of law, a school of industry, a house of refuge, where they may cease to do evil and learn to do well.

It would be easy to enforce this argument by considerations drawn from the selfish interests of society. We might show, by the reproduction of some simple statistical particulars, that it is vastly cheaper to anticipate than to overtake the criminal—that to educate in industrial, honest habits, the child who is otherwise sure to become a thief, saves much of the costs of his detection and punishment, and all the cost of his depredations. But it is more in the spirit of our present thoughts to urge that, whatever may be said for the work of prevention, that of reclamation will only be well done when undertaken from motives, and conducted in the temper of Christian philanthropy. The statesman might be content to save from the policeman, by the schoolmaster, the next generation of predestined criminals;—but the man of religious benevolence will be anxious to pluck from the burning brands, already half consumed. He sees the signs of lingering divinity in the darkest heart,—the capabilities of celestial felicity in the stunted form that crouches under the hand of the gaoler. He knows the possibility of awakening heavenward aspirations where there has hitherto appeared only animal

propensities. He believes that omnipotent influences may be drawn down by prayer and sacrifice for the cleansing of the soul that is now full of bitterness and cursing. Seeing and believing thus, he will cheerfully give his property to construct and maintain the apparatus of reformation. But he must do more than this. He must himself,—or in the person of some one like-minded—work that apparatus; for it will need to be wrought by almost superhuman wisdom and devotedness. In all moral processes, the moral element must be largely operative. A nicely-adjusted machinery of tasks and recreations, and of medicine and food, will be insufficient for the cure of souls in different stages of a common malady, and one of which no accurate diagnosis has yet been made. There will be required the constant presence of a mind vigilant yet trustful, stern but sympathetic, keen to detect but hard to anger—a mind of superior, well-balanced powers, all set in motion by a heart instinct with truest saintship. If to this rare combination of qualities there be added education and special training, there will still be nothing to spare. The greatest, best of men will find himself tasked by contact with the lowest and worst—just as the blade of keenest edge and finest temper is tested by collision with coarsest substances. There is here, then, a demand for the highest talent of the age; and yet a demand that will not find its supply on commercial principles. We have no fear, nevertheless, that the want will go unsatisfied. Its detection guarantees its being met. The same great religious spirit which for more than fifty years has gathered the million-fold children of labour into Sunday-schools—which for the last ten years past has collected the ragged offspring of vice and want into humbler seminaries—and which has lately made Joseph Ellis the associate at once of young criminals and of nobles—will assuredly bring forth a race of men adequate to this great work of individual mercy and social justice.

NOTES ON THE EDUCATIONAL CONTROVERSY.

The Executive Committee of the National Public School Association have issued a circular for a conference of the friends of a system of public instruction based on the principles of the association, to be held in Manchester on Wednesday, the 18th January next. Mr. Alexander Henry will occupy the chair, and Mr. Cobden, and other friends of the association, have promised their presence. Having announced the date of the conference, the circular goes on to say:—

The executive committee, having the present aspect of the educational question in view, feel that fidelity to their trust lays it upon them as an imperative duty to summon the leading friends of the association to meet at the present juncture; and they entertain a decided opinion that great advantage will result from the proposed conference, if it be numerously and influentially attended, and characterised by clearness, unanimity, and firmness in its utterances. That great progress towards the adoption of the principles of this association, and embodying them in public measures, has been made since our last conference, must be apparent to every careful observer of public tendencies and events. The executive committee feel quite justified in attributing such progress, in a large degree, to the influence and operations of the association. The promoters of the Manchester and Salford Education Bill have given notice of the re-introduction of that measure in the approaching session; it is probable that fresh proposals may be submitted by Lord John Russell, and this association contemplates the introduction of the bill prepared under its auspices to the notice of the Legislature. It is thus certain that the momentous question of national education, which has recently been forced into prominence by other circumstances, will, during the approaching parliamentary session, be pressed on the attention of Government and the Legislature, and that they will now consider it ripe for settlement.

The question of national education is "momentous," rather because of the desire of certain parties to force Government to take popular instruction under its management, than on account of any need of its interference. There is very little doubt that, if the exciting topics of foreign policy and parliamentary reform will allow, the education question will be well discussed during the ensuing session. We rejoice in the opportunity. The advocates of self-supporting education have had strong reason to complain that their views have as yet scarcely been put before the Legislature and the country. We trust that whatever debates ensue on this topic will embrace not only the schemes of rival associations, but the origin and working of the Committee of Council, who, by their Minutes, have effected a mischievous innovation upon constitutional usages, and usurped powers, which, in other matters, Parliament alone exercises.

We observe that, after some consideration, Sir John Pakington has declined the request of the Manchester and Salford Education Committee, that he would take

charge of their bill in the approaching session of Parliament, on the ground that, although concurring in the general principles of that measure, he is unable to adopt the plan proposed by the committee for the religious instruction to be given in those schools not connected with any particular denomination of Christians. Sir John does rightly in giving up such a charge—for on the matter in question he has exhibited an ignorance unworthy of any tyro in politics, and really disgraceful in an ex-Secretary of State. Notwithstanding the statistics prepared during his occupancy of office, the right hon. baronet still persists in the untrue statement that only one in twelve of the English population receive instruction in schools!

Evidence in favour of the views we maintain still crowds upon us. Once more we may quote the *Times* in their support. While theorists are talking glibly of "national education," the leading journal shows that, from the two endowed universities downwards, the nation has scarcely formed common sense notions of what education really is. At Oxford and Cambridge, classics and mathematics are the passports to honour, and the discipline for future life. "If a man wants to get a Fellowship, or pupils, or a living, or a bishopric, or merely to enter the world with the *éclat* of university honours, he must be able to write Greek verses in any possible metre, give the history of the Greek drama from Thespis downwards, or calculate the oscillations of a pendulum of a given length at a given height above the surface of the planet Jupiter. The public schools have worked up to the Universities, and the private schools to the public schools." We are then told the education for the most part provided for the poorer classes "charitable, natural, philanthropic, and gratuitous," is unsuitable, and that the matter and mode of the education have hardly any reference whatever to the peculiar demands of that busy sphere to which boy and girl will shortly be transferred.

There is no class of whom clergy and philanthropists have so little hope as a youthful town population that has passed through our national schools, so weak and imprudent are they, as well as so irreligious; and of all the helpless slatterns, incapable alike of domestic service and of her own maternal duties, the girl who went to the factory from the national school is the most deplorable. The testimony of the poor themselves is strong on this point. We are everywhere told that they do not care for a gratuitous education, and that to make them send their children regularly they ought to contribute. The fact is, that these gratuitous educations are seldom worth much, and the poor find it out. Nothing is more usual than for a poor man to remove his child from a school a few yards off, where he pays nothing, to another a mile off, where he has to pay sixpence, or even a shilling, a week. Even in these instances, however, the education procured at such trouble and cost is often rather of the common "charitable" standard than adapted to the actual wants and future employments of the child.

We find the same journal agreeing with the Birmingham Conference in the conclusion that it is of no use to look to the appointment of Government officials to make reformatory institutions successful, but that their usefulness must depend upon voluntary zeal. In other quarters we are glad to notice signs of the increasing importance of the self-reliant principle. Mr. Cole, it will be recollected, boldly proposes to place the management of the New National Institution of Art at Kensington under the management of a private company. On Monday last, the self-supporting schools, recently brought into connexion with the Board of Trade Department of Science and Art, boldly challenged comparison with the older institutions which have been languishing under State pay. The following is the report of a daily paper on the exhibition now open at Gore House:—

The works of the students of the self-supporting schools evidence, by the care and, in many cases, good taste with which they are characterised, that a parliamentary grant is not absolutely essential to stimulate exertion; but that a natural love of drawing as an art, fostered by the instructions and advice of instructors, for whose service the pupil himself contributes, may do much more towards the promotion of that particular kind of art, of which our manufactures stand in so much need, than the ordinary sluggish routine of work performed without emulation, and supervised by masters whose salaries are independent of success, and unaffected by the progress of their pupils.

Mr. Wallace, in his "Amazon and Rio Negro," describes an interesting serenade: Every night, while in the upper part of the river, we had a concert of frogs, which made most extraordinary noises. There are three kinds, which can frequently be all heard at once. One of these makes a noise something like what one would expect a frog to make, namely a dismal croak; but the sounds uttered by the others were like no animal noise that I ever heard before. A distant railway-train approaching, and a blacksmith hammering on his anvil, are what they exactly resemble. They are such true imitations, that when lying half-dozing in the canoe I have often fancied myself at home, hearing the familiar sounds of the approaching mail-train, and the hammering of the boiler-makers at the iron-works. Then we often had the "garribas," or howling monkeys, with their terrific noises, the shrill grating whistle of the cicadas and locusts, and the peculiar notes of the snarling and other aquatic birds; add to these the loud unpleasant hum of the mosquito in your immediate vicinity, and you have a pretty good idea of our nightly concert on the Tocantins.

Court, Personal, and Political News.

The Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal children, left Osborne on Thursday morning, and arrived at Windsor Castle; where the usual Christmas festivities will be kept. Prince Leopold of Saxe Gotha has arrived on a visit. On Monday, the Duke and Duchess of Nemours visited the Queen.

Lord Aberdeen left town on Saturday afternoon for Windsor Castle, to have an audience of the Queen. His lordship returned to London the same night.

The Duke of Newcastle has contributed no less than 800*l.* during the present year towards the restoration of various churches not immediately connected with his own estates.—*Nottingham Review.*

Mrs. Beecher Stowe is stated to be engaged in writing her travels in Europe.

Dr. Colenso, Bishop of Natal, sailed from Southampton, on Wednesday last, in company with Dr. Gray, Bishop of Cape Town, for their distant dioceses.

Mr. Christie, of Lincoln College, Oxford, has been chosen Professor of History in Owen's College, Manchester.

A lady formerly resident at Glasgow has bequeathed 500*l.* to the cathedral at Perth, and 2,000*l.* for the endowment of the bishopric of Glasgow.

Members of the Scottish Universities, following the example set before them in London, are stirring in the question of parliamentary representation. A meeting has been held on this subject in the hall of the Glasgow Philosophical Society.

We (*Scottish Press*) understand that the degree of D.D. has been conferred by Washington College, Pennsylvania, on the Rev. Thomas Thomson, Presbyterian minister, Kilmahort, Ballymeney, Ireland.

Captain Brock, who was many years in command of a surveying vessel in the Mediterranean, has been appointed additional captain to Admiral Dundas's flag ship, in order to make surveys of the Black Sea.

Mr. James Ewing, who represented Glasgow in the first Reformed Parliament, died lately, leaving a number of splendid bequests; one of them for Free Church purposes amounted to 18,000*l.*, with 100*l.* a year to the Sustentation Fund.

The inhabitants of Stamford, disgusted with their political slavery to the Marquis of Exeter, have petitioned the House of Commons to be disfranchised.

The *Morning Herald* gives a list of about ninety boroughs which it says are to be disfranchised under Lord J. Russell's bill—the object being evidently to frighten the representatives and represented of these places into a hostile attitude against the Ministerial scheme. The list contains all the boroughs with less than 500 electors. "T. F." in the *Daily News* proposes the embodiment in the bill of the following franchises: 1. A 40*l.* income-tax franchise for lodgers, half-pay officers, &c. 2. A 10*l.* house occupation franchise for those who are not purchasers of the 40*l.* income-tax franchise. One annual list for each parliamentary district will suffice for all the names, in alphabetical order, of these 40*l.* income-tax payers and 10*l.* house occupiers.

Mr. John O'Connell was, on Wednesday, declared duly elected to represent the borough of Clonmel, no show of opposition, as it was anticipated, having been made by any party. He declared that he had in no way adopted the opinions or pledged himself to the policy of the Tenant League Deputation, and that any statement to that effect made in the Dublin papers was unfounded. The policy which he would pursue, and the only principles which he would recognise were those of his father the late Daniel O'Connell. In the course of his speech returning thanks, Mr. O'Connell stated that he was against "Ministers' money" and a Church Establishment, because the first was vexatious and a crying evil, and because the latter was a monstrous anomaly. He lamented the feuds which had so long existed between Roman Catholics and Protestants, and which, when Ireland was independent for eighteen years, from 1782 to 1800, and while she progressed in commerce, manufactures, arts, science, and prosperity, were never heard of—(hear)—and he called upon both parties to give up their bigotry and bickerings, and unite for the good of their common country. (Hear.) After dwelling at considerable length on the recent secession of Lord Palmerston from the Coalition Cabinet, and stigmatising the noble lord and Lord John Russell as the greatest enemies of the Roman Catholics and of Ireland, ridiculing the late attempt of the petty Duke of Baden, who had about five miles of territory to put down the majesty of religion within his paltry dominions, he concluded amid great applause.

In the additional volume of Moore's *Memoirs* just published, Lord John Russell thus describes Sydney Smith's wit: If it is difficult to convey any notion of the conversation of Sir James Macintosh, it is hardly possible to describe that of Sydney Smith. There are two kinds of colloquial wit which equally contribute to fame, though not equally to agreeable conversation. The one is like a rocket in a dark air which shoots at once into the sky, and is the more surprising from the previous silence and gloom; the other is like that kind of firework which blazes and bursts out in every direction, exploding at one moment, and shining brightly at another, eccentric in its course, and changing its shape and colour to many forms and many hues. Or, as a dinner is set out with two kinds of champagne, so these two kinds of wit, the still and the sparkling, are to be found in good company. Sheridan and Talleyrand were among the best examples of the first. Hare (as I have heard) and Sydney Smith were brilliant instances of the second. Hare I knew only by tradition, but with Sydney Smith I long lived intimately. His great delight was to produce a succession of ludicrous images: these followed each other with a rapidity that scarcely left time to laugh; he himself laughing louder and with more enjoyment than any one. This electric contact of mirth came and went with the occasion; it cannot be repeated or reproduced.

Miscellaneous News.

After the first of January the officers and constables of the city of London Police will receive an advance of wages varying from 1s. to 5s. per week.

The directors of the Eastern Counties Railway have given their numerous staff of workmen employed at the central station, Stratford, a holiday for the Christmas week.

It is believed that the loss of life by the foundering of the steamer Marshall was greatly overrated; instead of 150 passengers, as at first stated, the highest number given now is thirty-eight.

Smallpox has been very prevalent in Peterborough for some time past, and many individuals are suffering from it at the present time. The disease is supposed to have been introduced into the town by a stranger.

A man in a state of intoxication has lost a leg at the Milford Junction of the Great Northern Railway, by attempting to get into a train which was in motion: he fell, and ten carriages passed over him.

The Glasgow papers note the arrival of cholera in that city, but they do not state that any fatal cases had occurred. At Faskine, near the Monkland Canal, and at Kilwinning there have been several deaths.

The vestry of the parish of St. Mary, Stoke Newington, have resolved, by an overwhelming majority, that the parish lands shall be mortgaged for the purpose of providing funds towards the erection of a new parish church.

The Kingwinford, Stourbridge, and Dudley Savings Bank has had a large increase of depositors and money during this year, notwithstanding so many persons investing their small savings in freehold land and building societies.

The Vicar of Sheffield has received 50*l.* as a thank-offering from a thriving tradesman "for the blessings which he has received at the hands of Providence." The money is to be applied, of course, to charitable objects.

Messrs. Baird and Company, the extensive iron-masters in the North of England, have agreed to pay 1*d.* per ton extra on the quantity of iron produced at furnaces wrought on total abstinence principles. The experiment appears to have been attended with satisfactory results to all parties.

At the sale of jewels held in London last Thursday, a ruby ring computed at fifteen grains, after some competition, produced 280 guineas, being nearly three times the value of the finest brilliant of the same size. The brilliant necklace sold for 1,200*l.*; and the sale amounted to 3,618*l.*

"Paterfamilias," and all who are interested in cheap coals, may take some comfort from the fact that an immense fleet of colliers (detained by unfavourable winds) sailed from the northern ports on Monday. Accounts from North Shields state "Everything under sixteen feet water has got to sea."

Smithfield-market in Manchester—an area of two acres and three-quarters—is to be covered with a roof, open on three sides. The cost of this and other improvements, and of the enlargement of the market to some extent, will be 30,000*l.* The "first stone" was laid last week.

A miser named Beaving recently died at Chilcompton, at the age of ninety-three. He pretended that he was utterly destitute; but after his death 200*l.* in gold was found in his cottage, and he had 309*l.* out at interest. He bought some coals twenty-one years ago, but he had never found the heart to burn them.

It is confidently asserted that an agreement has been come to between the London and North-Western and Great Western Railway Companies, with the approval of Mr. Cardwell, to refer the differences existing between them to the arbitration of the Hon. Edward Lascelles, M.P. for Ripon, and brother of the Earl of Harewood.

Mr. Rose, a retired cheesemonger, who carried on business in the Strand for fifty-four years, has died at North Bank, Regent's Park, in his hundredth year. His medical attendant says—"When in business, he very rarely took any recreation, beyond a walk in the country on a Sunday afternoon." But "he was always a sober man, an early riser, and lived very plainly."

A young Esquimaux, named Kallihirus Kallissa, has been publicly baptized in the church of St. Martin, Canterbury. This young man was brought to England by the expedition sent out in search of Sir John Franklin in 1848, under the command of Captain Austin and Captain Ommaney, who discovered in lat. 76 deg. a small tribe of Esquimaux: he has been educated at the expense of the Admiralty.

On Christmas-day the inmates of the different metropolitan and suburban workhouses were liberally regaled with Christmas fare. A comparison of the returns of last year shows a tendency to increase in the amount of metropolitan pauperism, although there are only three unions in which the amount of that increase is at present considerable. In St. Pancras alone there is an increase of 1,576 persons receiving relief. The total number receiving relief is at present about 100,000.

On Wednesday books were issued to the police-constables of the city and metropolitan police, containing the Act of Parliament for the Regulation of Hackney Carriages, a table of distances within the four mile radius, and tables of the authorised fares, both by time and distance; and this *multum in parvo* likewise contains a map of the metropolis and suburbs on an extended scale, and as a book of reference in cases of dispute is invaluable.

The movement in favour of draining the marshes on the Kent and shore of the Thames is proceeding with some activity. A report of the committee appointed at a meeting on the 1st November, has been printed, and was adopted on Wednesday, by a meeting

of the persons interested. It alleges that these marshes seriously affect the health of the metropolis, and more seriously the health of Woolwich, where the mortality is above the general average; and it shows that the drainage of them is practicable, and would be remunerative. It was stated at the meeting, that Lord Palmerston had suggested the creation of drainage districts, with a body of commissioners for each, one half to be nominated by the resident proprietors, the other half by the Crown.

It is well known that Birmingham has resolved to have a Crystal Palace, but that difficulties have intervened as to obtaining the land on which to erect it. But at a meeting in the Town Hall, on Friday, in which Mr. Adderley, M.P., Mr. Scholefield, M.P., Mr. Hill, Q.C., Mr. Joseph Sturge, the Rev. J. C. Miller, Mr. George Dawson, and other gentlemen took part, it was announced that Lord Calthorpe had made the noble offer of forty acres of the most valuable of his land near the Bristol-road, and close up to the town. Mr. Adderley (the donor of all the land on which have been established the Reformatory institutions near the town) offers a plot of equally eligible land in another quarter; and lastly, Mr. Joseph Sturge (never found wanting in the cause of active benevolence) gives up a valuable piece of land in Edgbaston for the same good purpose. The application to Parliament for the powers to levy a rate for carrying out the scheme were sanctioned by the meeting, and Mr. William Morgan (the town clerk), who has lent his active aid in fostering the project and smoothing away the difficulties incident to every scheme, however useful in its early stages, was instructed to prosecute the bill in Parliament.

Literature.

THE LITERATURE OF THE SEASON.

A CHRISTMAS Batch of Books!—the delight of a gentle public, and the pleasing relief of a critic. The reigning good humour of the season calls on editors and reviewers—always more kindly and benevolent souls than they are proverbially reputed to be—to manifest unusual indulgence and geniality, and to refrain from applying their strictest rules and severest tests to the entertaining volumes at such a time provided for the delectation of their readers. With perfect cordiality, therefore, and with great considerateness, we address ourselves to the task of the day.

Old Burton, in his "Anatomy of Melancholy" recounts "the ordinary recreations which we have in winter, and in most solitary times busy our minds with;" and among them are "cardes, shovel-board, chesse-play, the philosopher's game, shuttle-cocke, musicke, masks, singing, dancing, riddles, catches, purposes, questions and commands," and a variety of less promising amusements and more animal occupations; but—he has no mention of *Books*. And yet, now-a-days, whatever may be the abundance of turtle, turkey, beef, pudding, and mince pies—of wine, punch, and toddy—of parties, games, dances, and other festivities, more or less innocent and amusing—without *Books*, the Christmas time, with its short days and long evenings, will be a dull and lonesome season to many in far off nooks and corners, and to many isolated and companionless in the midst of cities and towns. Precious in its way, then, is "the literature of the season," whether its light and elegant gifts come as the interludes between feast and fun, or as the chief pleasures of the solitary in a dreary time.

When these columns reach the hands of our kind readers, the day of the season will be past, and they will be anticipating the New Year's Day, with the presents to be given and received on its arrival. The practice of making New Year's Gifts existed, we are told, "from the earliest times." The Romans connected the offering of gifts with their Saturnalia; and the custom has been preserved by Christendom, as appropriate to the festivities of the Christmas-tide. These gifts have been generally of an elegant and graceful nature, and their interchange has been expressive, and often productive, of much kindly feeling. An early writer, notwithstanding that certain ecclesiastical councils, so far back as the seventh century, denounced the "diabolical New Year's gifts," vindicated them as "harmless provocations to Christian love, and mutual testimonies thereof to good purpose, and never the worse because the heathen have them at like times." We heartily agree with him; and long may the custom continue, and long may beautiful and appropriate season-books offer incentives to its best observance.

The first record of a literary New Year's gift known to us, is of the presentation to King Edward the Sixth by the Princess Elizabeth—our

mainly "Queen Bess"—of a translation in Latin, in her own hand, of an Italian sermon of Occhini; her pride of scholarship," as it has been remarked, "even then showing itself." It was in that age, it appears, that books were first of all printed with the name of New Year's Gifts, by way of attracting special attention at a favourable season. Mr. Sandys, the antiquarian writer, and author of a work on Christmastide, says that, on New Year's Day, 1561, the Dean of St. Paul's presented to Elizabeth, as a gift for the day, a Prayer-book richly bound, having several fine cuts and pictures of the stories of saints and martyrs; and got, for his pains, a very stern rebuke from "the peremptory young lady," who considered the said illustrations and adornments as being contrary to the proclamation against images, pictures, and Romish relics, and "desired that such a mistake might never occur again."

When once literary gifts were introduced, who does not feel that their convenience and fitness must commend them to extensive use? Then came work for busy publishers, to cater for the growing taste, and to supply suitable and attractive books for the annual season of presents. Thence arose the "Annuals" so long popular, and now, all save one, defunct. But in their place we have books still more beautiful, and of more enduring worth. Artists bring their best and noblest, and popular authors their most interesting and most graceful performances, as welcome and celebration of the New Year. May success and reward crown their efforts; may they be "with fat capon lined," and with bright wine "made glad;" may grateful eyes grow brilliant over their pictures, and warm hearts cherish their story and song!—Ladies and gentlemen,—suffer us now to introduce our literary brethren, friends, and superiors!

The Pilgrim Fathers; or, The Founders of New England in the Reign of James the First. By W. H. BARTLETT, author of "Forty Days in the Desert." With Illustrations. London: A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

FOR several years past, as Christmas came nigh, we have looked forward with eager expectation to the appearance of Mr. Bartlett's annual volume; and we have never been disappointed with any work produced by the combined efforts of his pen and pencil. In making "The Pilgrim Fathers" his present subject, he has provided for an unusual variety in the pictorial embellishments to which his books owe their great charm; and, at the same time, has secured to the literature of the volume an interest as enduring as it is widely felt.

The manner of Mr. Bartlett, as an artist, is now known to all who seek after first-class illustrated books. With how few materials he can make a fine picture, with how much truth the objects and scenes he sketches are represented, and how all that is characteristic of particular countries, or individual in a landscape, is significantly told to the observer, we need not again attempt to say—having said it emphatically in former years, and the merits we praise being as noticeable here as ever in any work of Mr. Bartlett's.

The illustrations of this volume carry us to secluded villages in Nottinghamshire, and to the Lincolnshire fens; then transport us to the scenery and quaint old towns of Holland; and yet again to the sea-coast of New England, and the quiet streets of Plymouth. Every spot is sacred; and he who bears in his heart the memory of the "Pilgrims," lingers over each with peculiar pleasure, and with thankfulness that, by these beautiful sketches, he is made familiar with localities, which formed the successive scenes of so interesting and wonderful a history. These twenty-eight exquisite engravings—valuably supplemented as they are by woodcuts, of places of subordinate importance, and of the pilgrim relics which have been reverently preserved—have attractions to which none of our readers can be insensible: and we should suppose that in America they will be welcomed with gratitude and enthusiasm by those whose proud boast it is, to be the descendants of the "Pilgrims." We would mention the views of "Scrooby," "Standish Chapel," "Leyden," "The Old Rhine, Leyden," "Old Gates at Delft," "Mill on the Maese," "Delfthaven," Leyden-street, Plymouth," "The Town Brook," and "The Burial-hill, Plymouth," as particularly

pleasing and satisfying to us; and the greater part of the remaining sketches can scarcely be pronounced of inferior interest and beauty.

In writing the story of "The Pilgrim Fathers," Mr. Bartlett has studied brevity and condensation, and has shown great care and accuracy in the use of his materials. The subject has not been so frequently taken up by English writers as to make such a narrative unnecessary; and, although it is quite subordinate to the plates, the literary part of this book is acceptable for its own sake. Yet it is not a work that enables one to dispense with other sources of information; and will not supplant even such popular books as Dr. Cheever's and Mr. Daniel Wilson's on the same subject. It is in the narrative of the author's personal visits to the scenes depicted, that we have the freshest and most attractive matter; and from such parts of the volume we have made our extracts:—

"AUSTERFIELD, THE BIRTH-PLACE OF GOVERNOR BRADFORD."

"The spots of interest connected with the Scrooby [Independent] Church are all comprised within a very small circuit of Bawtry, in Yorkshire—a small town on the great north road—alive, before the establishment of railroads, with all the bustle of a great thoroughfare, but now so quiet and forlorn, that boys may be seen playing cricket in the street; while the neighbouring farmers, or commercial travellers, 'few and far between,' alone darken the doors of inns formerly resounding with custom, but now rapidly falling to decay. Making one of these our head-quarters, our first excursion was to Austerfield, the birth-place of William Bradford. On gaining the railroad, which commands the neighbouring level, we paused to cast a glance over its general character. It is one of those rich pastoral districts common enough in merry England, which, having no marked features of hill and dale, the hand of industry has so covered with exuberant crops of corn, neatly divided by green hedgerows, that the eye rejoices to look upon it, and its aspect of peaceful serenity sinks into the heart. In its centre, and occupying the lowest level, yet but little beneath that of the surrounding cornfields, is a tract of rich marsh land of vivid green, enlivened with grazing groups of cattle. The glassy stream of the Idle winds through the plain, after a fashion which bessems its name, in slow and mazy coils between the villages of Austerfield and Scrooby, the former concealed among trees, but the latter marked out by the graceful fabric of its church, rising above the green level with its gray, sky-pointing spire. Thus peaceful and unpretending is the physiognomy of this nursery of the pilgrims!—A sign-post bearing the inscription, 'Foot-path to Austerfield,' indicated the nearest course, and I pursued one of those pleasant byways peculiar to England, sometimes closely passing between green hedges, at others striking across fields of rustling corn, adorned with patches of brilliant poppies, or through beanfields, which when swept by the wind gave out an odour delicious as the choicest parterre. It was one of those fresh bright days when the silvery clouds are driven along the sky by a pleasant breeze, and when the rapidly-fleeting shadows cast by them chase each other playfully along the waving surface of the cornfields. The lark, high in the heavens, tripped out her joyous music, rising higher and higher, till the notes were but faintly audible in the sunny sky, and then rushing down nearer and nearer to the earth with fresh bursts of her inexhaustible melody. On gaining a rising ground, the birth-place of William Bradford appeared below—a hamlet of the most humble description, simply a double row of rustic cottages, old-fashioned and mossy, but with their geraniums in the windows, and bright patches of flowers in the little gardens, displaying that neatness and instinctive rural taste peculiar to the better classes of English husbandmen. In one of these peasant nests abode the old sexton, whom I forthwith sought out. He was a venerable man, bending beneath the weight of seventy years, yet still hale and hearty; his cheek, like that of 'Adam,' in 'As You Like It,' resembled 'a winter apple, frosty but kindly,' and his antiquated garments, patched and darned as they were by the labours of his aged helpmate, had an air of neatness and propriety. Under his guidance, I proceeded to the church, which, like the village, is of the smallest possible dimensions, but of most venerable antiquity, its foundation dating probably from the eleventh to the twelfth century. The grass of the churchyard is almost deep and rich as moss, with a few grave-stones scattered over, among which I sought in vain for any belonging to the Bradfords, the majority of whom no doubt still continued to attend that church, his secession from which drew down upon the youthful Bradford so much obloquy and persecution.—Within a modern porch, thrown out for convenience, is a very curious old door of early Norman date, as its heavy massive capitals, its irregular zigzag moulding of all sizes and shapes, its fish-head ornament, and, what was doubtless intended as the chief feature of the sculptor's skill, a basso-relievo of the old enemy of mankind, under the guise of a serpent with expanded mouth and grinning fangs, do all evidently testify. The interior of the church answers in every respect to its humble external appearance. The flags, broken and irregular, are worn by the feet of many generations; the pews are of the roughest carpentry; yet all is neat and decent, and impresses the beholder with a feeling of solemn respect. The chancel is separated from the nave by a round-headed arch, supported on pillars like those of the door; and within the communion rails is an old oak-chest, which contains the registers and records so diligently explored by Mr. Hunter, in quest of information concerning the Bradfords of past days, for it may be here observed that no one of that family is now to be found at Austerfield, though there are persons bearing the name at Rossington and Hawarth, within a few miles distant.

From the will of one of the family, who calls himself 'Robert Bradfourth, of Austerfield, yeoman,' we derive some curious glimpses of the condition of this class, even in the reign of Elizabeth, ranked next to the acknowledged gentry the men who used coat-armour of velvet. They were people who lived for the most part on

iron-bound wain, the cupboard (or parlours) of his house, on long table with a frame, and one long form, with his be-yoke of oxen.' Also, 'the counter where the evidences are, besides a corslet, with all the furniture thereto belonging.' The residue of his property he divides equally among his four children, whom he leaves to the care of certain guardians. One of these was named Silvester, a divine at Alkley, near Austerfield, and from his will it would appear that, besides a fair estate, he possessed a library of English and Latin books, when they were exceedingly scarce in England. He left to the poor scholars of the grammar-school at Rossington, his Copper's Dictionary, to be chained to a stall in the church, and used as long as it will last. It is with reason supposed by Mr. Hunter, that William Bradford may have had access to this library, which probably tended to give him the studious turn to which we have already alluded. 'And one thing,' he observes, 'is clear, that the Bradfords of Austerfield, during the eighteen years that he who was afterwards the Governor of New Plymouth was living with them, associated with the very best of the slender population by whom they were surrounded.'

The scene shall now change to Holland, and, in the city of Leyden, we will visit

THE BURIAL-PLACE OF JOHN ROBINSON, THE PASTOR OF THE "PILRIM FATHERS."

"The next object that drew our attention was St. Peter's Church, the burial place of Robinson, who died in 1625, some years after the body of the Pilgrims had removed to America. This church is of very ancient foundation, having, as is supposed, been built in 1121. Externally it is a vast, ponderous pile, with little architectural beauty, and what symmetry it possesses is marred by a number of small houses built up against it. Through one of these, being the abode of the verger, we obtained access by sundry windings and turnings to the interior of the sacred edifice. Its size is enormous, the nave having two aisles on each side; yet like the exterior, it has little to recommend it on the score of beauty. In the days of Catholic supremacy, its immensity was relieved with statues and pictures; but all these evidences of idolatry were ruthlessly swept away at the Reformation, and the building, neatly whitewashed—to use the words of Andrew Fairservice—appeared 'as crouse as a cat with a' the fleas kaimed off her.' Here I had amusing evidence of the utter absence of a feeling of sanctity attached to Protestant churches in Holland. The woman who showed it, on finding that I should be some time inside, coolly handed in some chairs from her kitchen, and bringing out a basin of water and a barrel of potatoes, went on peeling the latter with the greatest phlegm imaginable. The shirts and breeches of her youthful heir were meanwhile hung out to dry on a string suspended between two ornaments, where they had not improbably been washed before; and presently the young hopeful, in his wooden shoes came, clattering in from school, and romping about the sacred edifice thus serving at once for kitchen, washhouse, drying-ground, and play-ground, and heaven only knows what other profane purposes besides!

"We owe the knowledge of Robinson's burial-place to the persevering researches of Mr. Sumner. It appears from the letter of Roger White to the American Pilgrims, quoted by him, and dated Leyden, April 28, 1625, that the venerable pastor was gradually declining for several days before his death, 'feeling little or no pain, yet sensible to the very last,' and that he expired on the 1st of March. He distinctly states that he was free of the plague which was at that time raging in Leyden, so that his friends were enabled to have free access to him. In Blossom's letter to Bradford, we read that 'he was taken away as fruit falleth before it was ripe, when neither length of days nor infirmity of body did seem to call for his end. The Lord even then took him away, as it were in his anger; whom, if tears would have held, he had remained to this day.' Winslow, in his apology, declares that 'the University and ministers of the city accompanied him to his grave with all their accustomed solemnities, bewailing the great loss that not only that particular church had whereof he was pastor, but some of the chief of them sadly affirmed that all the churches of Christ sustained a loss by the death of that worthy instrument of the Gospel.' Although Winslow was in America at the time of his writing, and could therefore only have spoken by information, we should yet have imagined that his information would have been correct; and when we consider that Robinson had obtained the freedom of the University, and had become a prominent character through his controversy with Episcopius, undertaken at the request of the leading Dutch divines, such funeral honours might reasonably enough have been rendered by them. Mr. Sumner, however, expresses his doubts as to the fact, especially as the plague was raging in the city, and public funerals were suspended.

"The aisles of St. Peter's Church are paved with tombstones, many of which have the armorial bearings of noble families, and not a few cover the remains of distinguished members of the University; but the footsteps of centuries have obliterated the inscriptions upon many, and it is but little probable that any ever bore the name of Robinson. This church also contains the monuments of many eminent men, such as Boerhaave, Camper, and Scaliger, one of the most illustrious ornaments of the University."

As we have not included in the above extract those details which satisfactorily identify St. Peter's, Leyden, as Robinson's place of interment, we may mention that Mr. Sumner discovered, in a list of burial-fees, the receipt for his interment "at the Peter's Kerk;"—the name is given as "John Robens, English preacher," and the date is "10 Mart. 1625." And while we are speaking of Robinson, we would point out to Mr. Bartlett, that he speaks of him as educated "at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, or, as some contend, at Corpus Christi College;" and subsequently, when describing Emmanuel College, he says of a particular part of the building, that "its time-worn and somewhat gloomy walls probably afforded shelter to Robin-

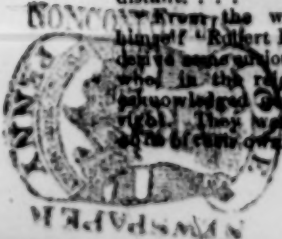
son and the rest of his Puritanical colleagues." He says, further, of William Brewster, that he was educated "probably at Emmanuel College;" but, in respect to both, leaves the facts doubtful. Now, had he consulted Mr. Ashton's biography of Robinson, or fixed to the new edition of his works, he might have improved and corrected these statements. The only John Robinson on the register of Emmanuel College, at or near the time spent at Cambridge by the Robinson of the Pilgrims, is proved by one of the entries of that register to have taken his degree as Bachelor of Divinity in 1607; at which time our Robinson had already become a Separatist and the pastor of "the Mother Church of Pilgrims" at Scrooby. On the other hand, the register of *Corpus Christi College* has a John Robinson, who entered in 1592,—is described as of Lincolnshire, which Robinson called "his county,"—who was made a Fellow in 1598, took his degree of M.A. in 1599,—and by Dr. Lamb, late Master of Corpus, in his Hist of Fellows of the College, is stated to have "resigned his fellowship, 1604." These dates so perfectly meet the demand of Robinson's history, and the particulars joined with them furnish so much additional evidence, that it is not to be reasonably doubted that the John Robinson of *Corpus Christi* is, as a former Head of the College, Dr. Masters, declared him to be, the party who was beneficed in Norfolk, became a Separatist, fled to Leyden, and set up a congregation on the model of the Brownists. These facts we state, not on Mr. Ashton's authority merely, but on a personal examination of them on the spot, which has fully satisfied us that the Pilgrim Pastor was of *Corpus College*. We may also say, with respect to Brewster, that the register of *Emmanuel College* has been examined for the express purpose, but without discovering his name. The names of John Harvard, Nathaniel Ward, Thomas Hooker, and Thomas Sheppard—all of them well known in connexion with the Pilgrims—are found on the books of Emmanuel College.—This is hardly *Christmas criticism*; but we should like to provoke Mr. Bartlett, who has put a view of Emmanuel College in his book, to go and sketch the interior of an old quadrangle at *Corpus Christi College*, which remains in a condition that must be nearly such as it was in the days of Robinson, who probably sojourned within these very walls.

And now, before parting with Mr. Bartlett, let us accompany him across the Atlantic, to the town of the Pilgrims:—

PLYMOUTH.

"I began to catch glimpses of the Bay of Plymouth, and the hills which girdle it in; but like most of the coast scenery of America, it has little in comparison with that of Europe to gratify the eye of the lover of nature, and I must confess my first glance over the scene I had come to survey was one of disappointment. On reaching Plymouth, the principal hotel (called after the friendly Indian who welcomed the first Pilgrims—"The Samoset") was not yet opened, and I therefore repaired to an old-fashioned tavern, called the 'Mansion-house,' which stood in the centre of the village, overshadowed with an enormous weeping elm. . . . In these 'go-a-head' times, when the United States are so rapidly filling up, and the acquisition of new and golden territories only seems to whet the appetite of her citizens for further 'annexation' this poor little town of Plymouth is looked down upon as quite an old place, very much behind the stirring spirit of the age. There is, in truth, a quiet, old-fashioned, yet cheerful look about it, well suiting the associations which render it so interesting a place of pilgrimage. It consists of a few principal streets, and a number of straggling bye-lanes running off into the surrounding country. Nothing in its way can well be more charming or rural than such a village as this. The principal streets, or to call them more correctly, avenues, are lined with wooden houses, mostly airy and spacious, and often furnished with an ample porch or verandah running round two sides of the building, which is neatly painted white, grey, or stone colour, with window-blinds and shutters of bright green. Many of these gay yet rustic-looking dwellings are detached, standing amidst gardens full of shrubs and flowers, and almost embowered in a covert of foliage. Rows of tall elms with drooping branches, almost meeting over the centre of the road, give to the scene an air of pensive tranquillity and delicious repose. . . . Of these streets, the first laid out by the Pilgrims is of course the most interesting. They judiciously decided to build it upon a high ground, where much of the land had been cleared and planted with corn by the Indians. Below this ran 'a very sweet brook,' with 'many delicate springs of as sweet water as can be drank.' The mouth of the stream afforded them a small harbour for their shallops and boats, and in the season it abounded with fish. At the head of this street was the hill on which they erected a fort, now called the Burial-hill. . . . To the main avenue they gave the name of 'Leyden-street,' after 'that fair and beautiful city' where they met with a refuge for so many years. . . . But, alas! not one of the old houses erected by the Pilgrims is now standing."

Here, very gratefully and with a benediction, we close Mr. Bartlett's delightful book.



The Life of Martin Luther: in Fifty Pictures, from Designs by GUSTAV KÖNIG. To which is added, A Sketch of the Rise and Progress of the Reformation in Germany. London: N. Cooke, Milford House, Strand.

It is said, that the drawings from which the engravings in this work were made, created a great sensation at Munich a few years ago. We have ourselves derived great pleasure from a careful and repeated examination of them, and cannot conceive of any one looking through them without gratification. But we have been unable to get into raptures with them. The truth is, we are not very enthusiastic admirers of the works of recent German artists. We are heretics even about Retsch. We almost abominate Overbeck. We only tolerate the French-German Ary Scheffer. Not that we are blind or insensible to the peculiar merits displayed by the designs of these artists,—their generally truthful drawing, their almost unsurpassed excellence of grouping, and their perfectness of detail. But we don't like their versions of the human face, nor are we admirers of the character of sentiment in which they indulge. The merits we have named are just those of Gustav König, in this volume. There is, also, something uncommonly expressive in his pictures; they faithfully tell their own story. In such as, "Luther Singing at the Door of Mistress Ursula," "Luther Preaching before Staupitz," "The Disputation with Dr. Eck," "The Reception at Worms," "The Translation of the Bible," and "Luther in the Bosom of his Family," the grouping is very fine, and the sentiment is powerfully expressed. But even in these the countenances are singularly feeble, and the strong features of Luther, either by the artist or his engraver, have frequently been almost entirely missed. In some of the other pictures there is much stiffness and artificiality; so that while the facts are told, they are told unpleasantly, if not even disagreeably. It is, indeed, no inconsiderable merit that, out of fifty illustrations, a third are worthy of their subjects, and generally satisfying; and, although we criticise the mass not quite favourably, we must confess that we should be exceedingly unwilling to lose Herr König's series of designs, and expect often to return them with a measure of delight that no great number of illustrated books could afford us. Nor must we omit to say, that the woodcuts are most beautifully executed, and the impressions very perfect.

The pictures of this handsome book are accompanied by a biography of Luther, specially prepared for the original German publication by M. Gelzer, and here translated into good idiomatic English. M. Gelzer says his object has been, "to present to his countrymen a book which should renew in fresh outlines the image of their great intellectual hero,—a book which a father might read to his domestic circle,—which might accompany the young student to his high-school,—and which might furnish a subject for reflection to the clergyman, whether in the quiet of his native land, or in a new home in distant colonies on the other side of the ocean, reminding him, in the latter case, of the land of his fathers, the historical home of his spiritual life and faith." The English editor adds, respecting the point of view from which M. Gelzer has written, that, "living in a country where Roman Catholicism remains the religion of a large portion of the people, he is necessarily tolerant, like the rest of his countrymen; and he has endeavoured carefully to avoid all bitterness of spirit towards the members of that creed which waged war and persecution against Luther."

The "Life" is distributed into short sections, severally corresponding to, and descriptive of, the plates;—an arrangement disadvantageous to the literary, although useful to the artistic, element of the volume. Notwithstanding, the principal facts of the Reformer's life are narrated clearly and in an interesting manner. It is, however, in the "Sketch of the Reformation in Germany," that the abilities of M. Gelzer are really disclosed. Within a limited space he compresses that great history, so as to present a vivid and impressive picture to his reader's mind. He has brought to his aid the words and writings of Luther and his contemporaries, whenever possible; thus setting forth the personal character and interior life of Luther, as well as tracing the progress of the Reforma-

tion movement. A deep thoughtfulness and a philosophical spirit have combined in this sketch; and the *ideas* of the Reformation—ruling the minds of its agents, and shaping the course of events—are brought out clearly and effectively, and with eminent fitness to those objects which the author professes to have had chiefly in view. It is particularly to be commended, as affording a view of all that was mostly deeply inward in the solemn revolt and protest of Germany, under Luther, against the doctrine and authority of Rome; and, as leaving upon the mind an impression having much more distinctness and unity than is produced by most popular surveys of the Reformation age, with its unique men, its gradually-evolved principles, its terrible struggles, and its strangely-mingled issues.

In illustration of the character of M. Gelzer's "Sketch," we make the following extract:—

LUTHER A MONK.

"The young student distinguished himself during his academical career at Erfurt (1501—1505) by persevering industry, moral purity, and piety. He took a degree in philosophy as early as 1505; and now his father, who had grown rich in the meantime, wished him to study the law; but he defeated all these plans and wishes by suddenly entering the monastery of the Augustines at Erfurt, and taking the vows. Here we stand at the all-important turning-point of his life, which we must comprehend in its innermost significance, if we wish to understand correctly the depths of Luther's inward being, and his entire future development.

"The discipline of external, and the severe struggles of internal life, we said, educated him for his task. These struggles of his soul led him into the monastery; and there they attained a climax. As he did not attempt to set aside the spiritual and religious authorities of his day with contemptuous indifference, but grappled with them honestly and seriously, the experience of his own heart and mind soon taught him that he could not draw from them the living water for which his soul languished. The more sincerely he strove for inward satisfaction, the more painfully he was convinced that the then existing accredited religious institutions were abandoned by the life-giving spirit. His coming into immediate mental conflict with those spiritual powers which stopped up and darkened the way to the truth which he sought, was of decisive importance. In monachism, scholasticism, and in priestly hierarchy, he sought in vain for true peace to his soul—for real satisfaction and Divine contentment.

"The spiritual man approaches the victory of the Divine principle, life in eternal ideas, by three distinct paths. Communion with God, the reality of eternal life in man, is conceived either as moral, æsthetic, or speculative consciousness. We may say religion manifests herself irresistibly in every reflective being as a moral requirement, or as æsthetic or intellectual intuition. The first of these paths we call the *ethic*—the irresistible holy impulse the conscience feels to fill up, by some means, the great gulf between sin and holiness, between the blessed simplicity of the Divine will and our unhappy, distracted, and defiled condition. The second path is the *æsthetic*—the lively perception of external beauty in the most diversified phenomena of existence; the inspired perception of the Divine secret of nature, of art, and of life. We indicate the third path as the *logical progress* towards the oneness of thought, the conception of the truth in its creative ruling centre; that striving of the mind thirsting after knowledge, which feels itself as it were banished when in the wretchedness of error and doubt. The more freely the religious consciousness is unfolded, the more evident will be its progress in the different paths; and it will plunge again and again into the three springs of all spiritual life, from whence flows true religious individuality. Although, according to eternal laws, one of them may predominate, yet the complete want of one or the other will ever affect us as the decay of a noble part, or the mutilation of the spiritual organism. Moral consciousness is the one indispensable, creating, and restrictive element of inward religion, which may for a time exist through it alone, independently of the other two elements; these, however, would but with difficulty preserve the vitality of the religion of the heart.

"In Luther we recognise great natural capabilities for a union of these fundamental principles of man's spiritual nature, but the *ethic principle* showed itself most powerfully and decisively in the ardent and unappeasable claims of his conscience; hence arose his vocation as a reformer. His energetic mind would admit no obfuscation, falsifying, or deceptive explanation of the enormous contrast which an awakened conscience perceives between human imperfection and sin and the Divine perfection and holiness. He did not rest until he had attained, by unspeakable troubles, doubts, and sufferings, to a satisfactory reconciliation of the difficulties of this contrast. He found it (anticipating our subject) in the belief in the grace of God, through Christ. 'Justification through faith,' God's free grace in Christ,—this became the clear and leading idea of his life, and of the reformation he originated. The abyss between the holy Creator and His sinful creature was bridged over for him by a new comprehension of the Saviour, at once historical and ideal; by a saving view of the profound import of the Gospel, as an immeasurable inward experience prevailing through all ages. Christianity, as history and idea, drawn freshly from its original eternal sources, stood before him like the newly-discovered land of his soul's desire: no longer as a rigorous law, depressing and paralysing the soul; but as the Divine capacity to a new spiritual life, as a second birth of the will, and therefore of the entire man.

"The above will furnish, in the outset, the most satisfactory explanation of the course of Luther's religious development to his disputes with Rome; the internal history of that which in our introduction we have called 'the Reformation in Luther.' His entrance into the monastery is to us the first important step towards this development. What induced him to this step was, unmistakably, a burning desire for salvation, for a degree of moral and religious perfection which he thought could only be reached in a monastery. That he was influenced in the first instance, in his view of human salvation and reconciliation with God, by purely monastic ideas, was in reality the cause of his becoming a monk. . . .

"The words of a letter to his father are significant: 'This is now the sixteenth year of my monkery, into which I entered without your knowledge. . . . I remember but too well, when we had been reconciled, and you talked to me, and I said to you that I had been called by a dreadful apparition from heaven; for I became a monk not willingly, still less to fatten my body, but because, when I was encompassed by quick coming death, I vowed a forced and hasty vow; and you said immediately, 'I pray God it may not be a devilish spirit.' That word, as if God had spoken it out of your mouth, pierced and sank deep into my soul; but I closed and barred my heart as well as I could against you and your word. All his observations at different times agree in this: 'I thought, Oh, if I go into a monastery, and serve God in shaven crown and cowl, He will reward and welcome me! For no other reason did I enter orders, but that I might serve and please God everlastingly. We knew nothing that a Christian ought to know—what God, the world, the Church, sin or forgiveness of sin, meant; they had darkened and suppressed all. We knew not otherwise than that priests and monks are all in all; and upon their works we stood, and not upon Christ. . . . When I had begun to study the humanities and philosophy, and had learned and acquired enough to take my degree, I might have followed the example of others, and have in my turn taught the young people and instructed them; or I might have proceeded with my own studies. But I left my parents, relations, and friends, and went into a monastery against their will. For I had been persuaded to believe that I should do God good service in that station by such hard and painful works. . . . Every man has a big monk sitting in his bosom; that is, we would willingly boast of our exceedingly good works, and be able to say: 'Behold I have done this! I have paid God with prayers and good works.' We deem ourselves pure by nature, so as not to stand in need of mercy, but be acknowledged just and pious through our own merits. This haughtiness and hypocrisy is deeply rooted in our flesh!'"

It may seem that the seriousness of this extract is too deep, and the demand it makes on the reader's thoughtful attention too great, for appropriate introduction here. But the literature of the volume is in no other way to be represented; and we are persuaded that many who look through these columns will be ready to mingle such graver thought with their social and festive enjoyments, and will be glad to find that a book of so many pictorial attractions has a high and lasting literary value.

The Good-natured Giant: a Story. With Illustrations by C. W. SHEPHERS. London: Hope and Co.

HERE is a companion for the Christmas fire, which asks audience of both the young and old; in the confidence that beneath its strange vesture of fable, some fair and healthy truths will be found, which the old may delight to exhibit to the young, and the young may pleasantly learn and usefully retain. It does not appear to have been prepared specially for this season, although it has not come under our notice before; and as it is a genuine enough Christmas book, its re-issue may pass with approval.

The Giant of the story rejoices in the name of *Eireneespaidagathoontegigantaiosphilos*, which being interpreted is, The Gigantic Lover of Peace and of Good Children. He is a sort of Providence to two good children, whom he carries in his waistcoat pocket, and introduces to scenes at home and abroad calculated to teach them wisdom, goodness, and love. He is himself possessed of genius and power, surpassed only by his benevolence; and all the marvels of his doings are directed to the quickening of the best elements of character in the human beings whom he patronises and assists, or who may fall casually into his hands. In the course of the indescribable extravagancies of the story, there are some satirical pictures of human life and conduct, which are not amiss, either in the amusement they afford, or the purpose they serve. But we fear that the book, as a whole, would prove rather dull to mature readers, and rather obscure to young ones; notwithstanding that the former will be curious to know the out-come of all the queer things it contains; and that the latter have naturally enough sympathy with the world of giants and fairies, to be anxious to know the meaning of the acts and sayings of this notably "good-natured giant," and his elegant little fairy sister, the Princess "Attatattadatta." There is some such phrase as this in the book, somewhere—"mythical morality to tickle the intellect of youth and age;" now, that's just the character of the work, and the only objection there can be urged against it is, that the mythical element gathers sometimes in clouds too thick and dun over the morality.

But let the book speak for itself:—This passage may stimulate a curiosity to be further acquainted with Mr. Eireen—&c., &c.

A JOURNEY IN A GIANT'S WAISTCOAT-POCKET.

The night was very dark, for the moon was not yet up. The children heard the noise of the Giant's feet

tramping along, but they could see nothing at all when they peeped out of his pockets. They expected every minute to hear the splashing of the water; but it seems the Giant determined not to go through the river in the dark. At last the moon began to appear, and the clouds to disappear; and when the little children looked out from the pockets again, they saw the full moon shining bright and clear over their heads, surrounded by millions of twinkling stars. Then, all at once, they heard some beautiful music, like a very fine organ. But as there was no church, nor any building near, they could not imagine where the fine sounds came from. At last they were satisfied that it must be the Giant who was humming a tune to himself. And so indeed it was. In fact the good Giant was exceedingly fond of music; and having a powerful and melodious voice, together with a thorough knowledge of the science of music in the abstract, he spent much of his spare time in musical composition of the most elaborate and scientific kind. . . . It was now about three o'clock in the morning, and the Giant still kept walking on; the poor children, however, had fallen asleep. And no wonder, after so much travelling, and so many wonderful adventures. But as the Giant had got a great many more wonderful things for them all, he was very careful not to disturb them. So while they were sleeping, he continued his journey without stopping, till he came to the sea side. Now, though the Giant's legs were very long, and he cared but little about scrambling through a moderate-sized river, yet, as he often modestly confessed, the British Channel was more than a match for him; he never could "fackie" it; he might chance to set his foot upon a slippery porpoise; or might, unintentionally, intrude upon the private apartments of a college of lobsters, and what would be death to them, would be no joke to him. Other little inconveniences he wisely foresaw might occur, such as pricking his toes with the sunken mast of some foundered vessel, or putting his foot into an unpleasantly deep hole, or losing his hat, if not his balance, in a squall.—But although these and other good reasons prevented his striding through the sea in the frequent visits to the continent which his schemes required; yet our worthy and wide-awake Giant determined not to be baffled, but to invent some other new ground, and untried method of crossing the Channel. And he succeeded. As a sapper and miner he had long ago established his celebrity. He was the gigantic genius who first suggested to old Brunel the idea of tunnelling the Thames. Soon after that time, it so happened that our Giant, in one of his mining moods, was sitting, on a fine moonlight night, in a cave, of his own invention under Shakespeare's cliff. Suddenly, a thought struck him. "I have immortalised my friend by my suggestion. I will now immortalise myself by tunnelling the British Channel." And he did so. He afterwards gave to the genius of Watt its full development. He made underground railroads to assist him in his rapid journeys. With his own big hands he laid down the sleepers, and constructed the broad gauges. He built himself gigantic steam engines, and was his own stoker, and his own passenger.—But the Giant always travelled with secrecy and mystery.—He travelled over Europe. He traversed the Globe. He had "his exits and his entrances," but he permitted none to "prate of his whereabouts."—Not even the "Duke," who knew him intimately, was ever known to ask him by what route he came, or whither he was going; in other respects, that great man enjoyed the Giant's full confidence, and wisely took advantage of it. Never did he sit down before a fortified town, without first consulting the good-natured Giant; and if neither Gurwood, Gleig, nor Napier have noticed this fact, it is but fair to attribute their silence, not to ignorance, but to a settled conviction that a fact so indisputable no more required to be recorded than that of his Grace having shaved, as usual, before the battle of Waterloo."

The illustrations of this volume, by Mr. Sheeres, are spirited drawings, and quite true to the feeling of the supernatural story. They are excellently engraved on wood; and the book is altogether handsomely got up.

The Christian Wreath of Prose, Poetry, and Art. London: Religious Tract Society.

THE "Annual" of the Tract Society, adapted as it is to a large circle of popular readers, and containing a variety of original and selected pieces, of narrative, fiction and poetry—which, if not of a high order, are at least interesting and instructive to those for whom it is specially prepared—demands our commendation, as being quite equal to any of its predecessors. "The Burman Zayat," by Mrs. Emily Judson; and "American and European Scenery compared," by "An American;" would furnish us some pleasantly quotable matter, had we space for it. There are eight very pretty prints in oil colours, of the Lake of Como, Mont Blanc, Heidelberg, Venice, Constantinople, New York Bay, Windermere, and Glengarriff. These strike us as superior to the similar prints of former years.

Louisa Von Plettenhaus; or, The Journal of a Poor Young Lady. Translated from the German. Edinburgh: Constable and Co.

In the form of a Journal kept by Louisa Von Plettenhaus, this volume contains a romantic and engaging story; with the diversified incidents of which are mingled such pious sentiments and wise reflections, as carry home to the heart the lessons and moral of the story, in a very touching and persuasive manner. Louisa, or, as she was familiarly called, "Lulu," was an orphan, of an ancient and noble house, but compelled by adversity to take the position of a

governess in an aristocratic family. This family consisted of the Frau Von Schlichten—whose youngest daughter, Lucy, was Louisa's pupil—and of her brother, Herr Von Schaffau, and their sister-in-law, "Aunt Juliet." Herr Von Schaffau was proprietor of the castle of Braunsdorf, in which they all resided, and of the adjoining estate; but being younger than his widowed sister, the Frau Von Schlichten, he had yielded the general control of the castle establishment to the ladies. Little confidence and goodwill existed between the parties; so that the household became divided into two bodies, severally attached to the brother, who occupied one wing, and to the Frau, who occupied the other wing of the castle. Into this unpromising and unhappy sphere Louisa enters; to find the Frau Von Schlichten and her two eldest daughters, the beautiful Thekla and Rosalie, abandoned to amusement and dissipation, and the care and education of poor little ugly Lucy devolved on herself, against the wishes of Herr Von Schaffau. By her gentle kindness and simple piety she gained for herself the reverent love, not only of the neglected and wayward, though intelligent and large-hearted Lucy, but also of "Aunt Juliet" and Rosalie; while her uprightness and prudence compelled the approving admiration of the quiet and reserved Herr Von Schaffau himself. But the Frau and her eldest daughter, Thekla, became her bitter antagonists, in consequence of the attentions paid to her by a certain rich Herr Von Tulzen, a guest at Braunsdorf, whom Madame desired for one of her daughters, and whose offers of marriage Louisa had repeatedly rejected, yet without succeeding in banishing the suspicions and dislikes of the designing women. At length, after a variety of experiences, sad and pleasurable by turns, Louisa was suddenly dismissed by the mother, unknown to her brother, and removed from the castle; in consequence of a malicious plot to overthrow her and bring her within his own grasp, concocted by Herr Von Tulzen. In sorrow and dismay she left; but on the facts becoming known, the intriguing lady was provided by her brother with another residence, to which Thekla accompanied her; while Rosalie and Lucy remained under his guardianship, and Aunt Juliet's, at the castle, to which Louisa was immediately restored—not, however, as the "poor young lady" who filled the post of governess, but as the wife of Herr Von Schaffau, who beneath the calm friendliness and careful observation of the many months preceding, had hidden the love and esteem of a warm and pious heart.

All along the course of this little story there are sketches of character, glimpses of life, and passages of experience, which are exceedingly life-like and interesting; and the "poor young lady's" story teaches very sweetly the beneficent power and perfect peace of goodness and faith in God. Let us commend it to our readers by a brief extract,—the choice of which shall be dictated by the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT BRAUNSDORF CASTLE.

"Below there are sounds of revelling and confusion. Guests are still arriving; but the thawed snow has rendered the way almost impracticable—the bridge is completely under water; and Herr Von Schaffau himself rode across to prevent the carriages coming that way. This nearly upset the equanimity of our temper, for he had promised to take a walk with Lucy and me; and we were wonderfully soon ready, and had got everything over shortly after three o'clock. Our part of the agreement was fulfilled, and we thought he would surely perform his engagement. Lucy loves her uncle very dearly, and literally leaped with delight on seeing him later in the day, as he hurried through the garden in search of us. Happening to be near a fir-grove at the time, we ran into it to hide there, and as he was going quickly past, Lucy shook the soft snow from the boughs and stopped him. But the bell soon commenced; the illuminations of the church penetrated the gloom; and light after light sprang up in the village. We hastened on, and on entering our pew, found Aunt Juliet already there! The chandeliers cast a glow upon the old knight and his lady, which made them look more life-like than ever. We sang the joyful Christmas hymn, in which many children's voices joined; and though quite out of tune, their sweet little tones could not spoil the harmony. Fraulein Von Ramberg, Rosalie, and some other ladies came in later, and went away together. We lingered in the churchyard, listening to the bells, till the lights were all extinguished, and then proceeded on our way. Herr Von Schaffau conducted Aunt Juliet and me home; I have never before seen his countenance wear such a joyous expression. He seemed as happy as a child. As we went along, he said to me that he was looking forward with great pleasure to the presents he should receive in the garden-house. I felt at first a little frightened, till I thought that he must be joking, for I had nothing to give him. Lucy and I dressed ourselves hastily in our white muslin frocks, and

placed orange blossoms in our hair, wishing to be well adorned on this festive day; and then quickly went to light the candles. Rosalie assisted us, and seemed very busy each time I saw her. The corner where I had arranged my presents was covered over with muslin. Presently we heard little footsteps and whispering. The door opened, and what a delightful sight! Richly were we repaid for all our industry. With countenances radiant with joy, the young ones entered. We led each to her place, and sang, first,—

'From heaven above I have come down;'

and then:

'Oh, happy, holy Christmas time.'

Rosalie, Lucy, Sophie, and I, sang in two parts with the elder children, and it sounded delightful in that lofty room. Then followed agreeable surprise and delight at their beautiful presents; and, while I was engrossed with the children, I did not observe that the room had filled with full-grown people from the drawing-room. The unwelcome voice of Herr Von Tulzen almost made me angry, but I would not allow myself to be so. Lucy was charmed with her manger; the transparency, with 'Glory to God in the Highest!' glittered brightly between the dark fir tops. The grown people were also pleased, and I distributed my pictures among the ladies. When the first bustle was over, and I stood alone beside the manger, Herr Von Schaffau came up to me. 'And is there really nothing for me?' he softly whispered. He looked quite vexed as he said so, gazing the while into my eyes, as though he wished to read my heart. Can he think that I bear him ill-will? I cannot express the feeling his words produced; but as I looked at him, I thought how gladly would I have something to give. He evidently understood me, for before I spoke, a look of friendliness had passed over his face; and on my saying that if I might venture I should like still to offer him some little gift, he replied,—'Pray, then, paint me a view of Plettenhaus;' to which I gladly consented. Aunt Juliet's loud voice now summoned us to the distribution above, and, for the first time, I had a feeling of joy in thinking that there would, surely, be something for me, and, with eager expectation, I entered the brilliant saloon. Oh! I got too much! . . . After dinner, Rosalie came to ask me to go down and sing some national airs to the company, as Herr Von Schaffau has strictly prohibited dancing, or any boisterous amusement, during these festive days. This evening was devoted to music. I sang with a glad heart; not for display, but with a feeling of Christian peace."

This scene is one of the least exciting in the volume; but we have selected it, because it is a Christmas scene. We only add, that the book is a very appropriate Christmas present for a young lady, and fitted to improve the heart while it fills the imagination with its amusing or pathetic pictures.

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

The Young Voyageurs; or, The Boy Hunters in the North. By Captain MAYNE REID, author of "The Boy Hunters," &c. With Illustrations, by W. Harvey. London: David Bogue, Fleet-street.

As a writer of books for boys, commend us, above all men living, to Captain Mayne Reid! Wherever his new book goes this New Year, there will be abundant delight for hours of reading, and plenty to talk of by the evening fire. In this volume he conducts "The Boy Hunters," with whom many of his young readers became acquainted in a previous work, into a new region and to new exploits. He had followed them through the swamps of Louisiana and over the prairies of Texas, and now brings them to the north, on a journey to their uncle, who resided at one of the farthest posts of the Hudson's Bay Company. "The Young Voyageurs" make a canoe voyage, almost equal in length to a trip across the Atlantic, navigating in their progress several large rivers and lakes, traversing unknown and dangerous tracks of country up to within a degree or so of the Arctic circle. Their toils and adventures, their dangers, darings, and sufferings, are narrated in the most vivid manner—thoroughly fascinating the mind of the reader, and retaining it in fixed and eager attention till a crisis of some kind is reached. But it is not for the sake of the amusing or exciting incidents that Captain Mayne Reid can tell with such powerful effect, that he becomes again and again a writer for boys. On this grand journey of his "Boy Hunters" through the far-stretching, cold, and desolate "fur countries" of North America, he suspends a nearly complete natural history of that region. Trees and shrubs, wild beasts and birds, are described in a lively and picturesque way, that is extremely interesting, and likely to settle the facts in the minds of his young readers. On the characteristics, habits, and uses of animals especially, he gives such minute and abundant information, as cannot be gathered easily from common sources. We ourselves read on till we had done; and we are a great deal the wiser on such matters for our pains; in addition to having been greatly amused. Take our word for it, boy friends, if you become Captain Mayne Reid's "boy-readers," on our recommendation, you will thank us for it with all your hearts, and praise the book more enthusiastically than we have done. And we venture to add, we should like to see the men, of any age, who could deny that its perusal gave them both pleasure and instruction.

Footprints of Famous Men; designed as Incitements to Intellectual Industry. By JOHN G. EDGAR, Author of "The Boyhood of Great Men." With Illustrations by Birket Foster. London: D. Bogue.

GOOD as was Mr. Edgar's volume on "The Boyhood of Great Men," he has excelled himself in this admirable work. We have classed it with books for the young, because it is chiefly to be commended to them; but there are innumerable persons having few opportunities for studious reading, to whom, as a collection of biographical sketches of eminent men, it will be exceedingly welcome

and valuable. The author divides his famous examples into four classes—Men of action: comprising Washington, Burke, Necker, Pitt, Erskine, Collingwood, and the late Lord Teignmouth (the least famous but one of the most useful of his examples)—Men of letters: comprising Dean Milner, Hume, Southey, and Moore: men of science—namely, Dr. William Hunter, Black, Brindley, Watt, and Adam Smith;—and artists—Reynolds, Chantrey, and Wren. The facts are carefully selected, told naturally and agreeably, and the point of each sketch set clearly and without effort before the mind. Difference of opinion may arise as to the choice of men made by Mr. Edgar; but none as to the execution of his task.—The designs by Mr. Birket Foster do little justice to his hand;—in fact, he cannot draw a group of figures, or tell an incident, with any such power as is comparable to that exhibited in his indescribably-beautiful landscape illustrations.—The book is full of attractions for elder boys, and will inform and healthfully stimulate, as much as it will interest and gratify, those who read it.

The Bible Story Book. First and Second Series. By the Rev. B. H. DRAPER. Thirteenth Edition. London: Ward and Co.

THE writer of these lines is young enough to remember using the first edition of this simple little book in childhood; and although he would be more pleased to regain for himself the old copy, with its old cuts, he is very pleased to recommend this new and elegant edition of the work to his young friends. A point or two in theology he does not improve; but on the whole it is very good and childlike. There is, also, a great number of pretty pictures.

Juvenile Tales for all Seasons. By M. J. MINTOSH. Illustrations by Kenny Meadows. London: G. Routledge and Co.

MISS MINTOSH is the "Aunt Kelly" with whom many of the young folks in our families have made delightful acquaintance; and this volume reprints in one nice book five tales, which have appeared singly, as "Blind Alice," "Florence Arnott," &c. They are charmingly simple, beautiful, cheerful, and Christian, as almost every one now knows.

The Elder Brothers; or, Protectors and Tyrants. By Mrs. GELDART. London: A. Hall and Co.

A STORY for boys,—which they must read if they once begin,—and which they can scarcely fail to get good from having read. It is every way capital, and worthy of the lady, whose "Truth is Everything," "Emily the Peacemaker," &c., have placed her highest among the Christian women who have written for our children.

Beauty and the Beast. By Miss CORNER. Illustrated by Alfred Crowquill. London: Dean and Co.

A Drama of the old nursery story, for children to act; but which those who do not encourage juvenile theatricals will find a really poetical and pleasant version of the tale. And it is excellently illustrated.

Facts and Fancies.

The Great Western Railway brought to town last week no less than three tons of mistletoe.

Of the entire acreage of the parishes in England and Wales into which railways penetrate, amounting to 9,177,190, the railways occupy 65,047 acres.

When Lola Montes passed through Sacramento, she had these "parlour ornaments"—a piano, a parrot, two dogs, and a grizzly bear.

From the manner in which the musk rats have been fortifying their habitations, the Canadian Indians predict a severe winter.

Thick fogs are not peculiar to London and Britain: the navigation of the Rhone has been suspended for a week by the thick atmosphere which has covered it.

While Mr. Sheridan Knowles is lecturing with great vehemence against Popery, his son, Mr. Richard Brinsley Knowles, is said to have become a Roman Catholic.

New cars with patent spring-seats have been built for the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railway, to be used as ladies' sleeping-cars.

Mr. Bentley, the publisher, has been obliged to abandon his experiment of publishing novels at a reduced price, his enterprise not having been seconded by the public.

The Bey of Tunis, who has the reputation of being one of the four best chess players in the world, has challenged one of the chess clubs of Paris to a rubber game for 1,000*l.* sterling.

Mr. Alexander Smith, the Glasgow poet, is a candidate for the office of Secretary to Edinburgh University, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Blair Wilson. Mr. Smith recently lectured at the Dunbarton Mechanics' Institute, on the life and genius of Robert Burns.

A plan of loading cannon at the breech has been invented by a Dr. Church. Report speaks highly of it. By this mode, heavy ship-guns can be loaded, and fired, and brought into position by two men five times in a minute, and a field-piece eight times in a minute.

The foundation of the large tower for supporting the tubular bridge of the Canadian Grand Trunk Railway across the Ottawa river has been completed. The length of this bridge, extending over two branches of the river, will be nearly half a mile.

The Oxford University Commissioners recommend the study of Locke. Thereupon Dr. Pusey pronounces Locke to be "one of the shallowest writers who ever treated of the human mind," and, moreover, "the forerunner of infidelity."

There is a report current in Constantinople amongst the Mussulmans, that Lord Aberdeen has been bribed largely by the Emperor Nicholas, and is now merely acting a part, to prepare the way for a final act of treachery! The tale has received a curious addition in the *cafés* over in Stamboul. It is there solemnly told amongst the bearded patriarchs, who discuss the affairs of the nation

over long chibouks, and scowl through the windows at the passing ghouls, that such is Queen Victoria's fondness for jewellery, and inability to procure it by more legitimate means, that she has lent her countenance and support to Lord Aberdeen's policy in consideration of a diamond necklace had and received from one of the Russian grand dukes.

Mr. Vizetelly has replied to Mr. Macaulay's attack on him for publishing his Speeches. As to their inaccuracy, the blame is *Hansard's*, from which they were taken. "With regard to the observations of a personal character, which Mr. Macaulay has thought fit to indulge in, these I shall leave to be dealt with, as advised, by a court of law."

The Commissioner of Police has requested the various local boards of trustees for lighting the roads leading from the metropolis, to cause a lamp-post to be put up showing the exact place at which the circumference of a circle of four miles radius from Charing-cross, terminates. There will be a full eclipse of the sun in this country in March, 1858.

Two charming women were discussing one day what it is which constitutes beauty in the hand. They differed in opinion as much as in the shape of the beautiful member whose merits they were discussing. A gentleman friend presented himself, and by common consent the question was referred to him. It was a delicate matter. He thought of Paris and the three goddesses. Glancing from one to the other of the beautiful white hands presented to him, he replied at last—"I give it up; the question is too hard for me; but ask the poor, and they will tell you that the most beautiful hand in the world is the hand that gives."

A certain Lord Mayor, who, some years ago, had been a brewer, was determined to have six of his own full-fed brewers' horses to draw the state coach. Now, the horses had been trained to drag up from the cellars of the publicans the empty casks, at the word of command, "Sides, all!" The procession started fairly enough from the Mansion House; but a wag in the crowd, who was aware of the training of the horses, suddenly cried out, "Sides, all!" upon which, every horse started from his fellow in the most admired confusion, and the procession was, with much difficulty and danger, again set forth upon its way.

The holly and mistletoe, it is well known, are used to decorate houses at Christmas, but very few people are aware of the origin of the custom. The holly was dedicated to Saturn; and, as the *fêtes* of that deity were celebrated in December, and the Romans were accustomed to decorate their houses with holly, the early Christians decorated their houses in the same manner, while they were celebrating their festival at Christmas, in order that they might escape observation. The mistletoe was dedicated to Friga, the Venus of the Scandinavians, and, as she was the goddess of love, it was formerly a custom to kiss under the mistletoe.

Moore himself thus reports a ludicrous negotiation with Murray the publisher: "Called at Murray's. Mentioned to him Lady Morgan's wish to contribute something to his 'Family Library,' and that she has materials ready for lives of five or six Dutch painters, which she thinks would suit his purpose. The great John said, without minding the painters, 'Pray, isn't Lady Morgan a very good cook?' I answered, I did not know; but why did he ask? 'Because,' said he, 'if she would do something in that line.' 'Why, you don't mean,' exclaimed I, 'that she should write a cookery book for you?' 'No,' answered John, coolly, 'not so much as that; but that she should re-edite mine' (Mrs. Randall's, by which he has made mints of money). Oh, that she could have heard this with her own ears! Here ended my negotiation for her ladyship."

Miss Fredrika Bremer has published "A Card," setting forth a certain protest which she feels bound to make against "misconceptions as to words and meanings of the Swedish original" of her "Homes of the New World." Miss Bremer indulgently recognizes the difficulty of the translation, vouches for it as good and faithful on the whole, and in parts excellent. But examples of the deviations are certainly serious. "In the first letter from New York, I find it said about a lady as amiable as highly gifted—'She seemed to me a beautiful soul, but too angular' to be happy." The Swedish word translated by 'angular' is 'finkanslig,' which signifies 'delicately sensitive.' Another deviation consists in publishing passages which, at the request of the author, the translator had agreed to omit, and which are omitted in the Swedish edition. "As I cannot explain the disagreement in these last cases, I can only state that so it is." And Miss Bremer calls for a corrected edition of her book.

BIRTHS.

December 17, at Carlisle, the wife of the Rev. THOMAS HIND, of a daughter.

December 19, at Stanbrooke-villa, Cheltenham, the wife of FRANCIS ROUBILLAC CONDOR, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

August 12, at Sydney, by special license, by the Rev. R. Ross, D.D., Mr. E. B. WHELEY HUTCHISON to EMILY ANNE, eldest daughter of T. BURDER WILSON, Esq., of Doctors'-commons and Kingsland.

December 21, at Hoxton Academy Chapel, by the Rev. W. MALL, Mr. CALES STANGER, youngest son of Mr. SAMUEL STANGER, of Dalston-rise, to SARAH ANN PORTER, niece of N. I. POWELL, Esq., of Whitechapel.

December 21, at Remote, near Edinburgh, the Rev. GEORGE HALL, B.A., Missionary, Madras, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late CHARLES STEWART, Esq., of Remote.

December 22, at Prad-street General Baptist Chapel, Paddington, by the Rev. J. BURNS, D.D., the Rev. DAWSON BURNS, son of Dr. BURNS, to Cecily, only daughter of Mr. J. and C. T. BALFOUR, of Alfred-road, Westbourne-green.

December 24, at Stonehouse, by the Rev. T. MAUND, Mr. J. FARR, of Stroud, to MARY, only daughter of Mr. J. C. GRIMES, of the former place.

December 26, at the Baptist Chapel, Bridge-street, Banbury, by the Rev. W. T. HENDERSON, Mr. G. GAFFER to MARY ANN DEAN, all of the above town.

December 27, at the Baptist Chapel, Chipping Norton, by the Rev. W. T. HENDERSON, Banbury, assisted by the Rev. T. BLISS, B.A., Mr. RICHARD HENDERSON to SARAH, eldest daughter of Mr. T. WILLIAMS, of Chipping Norton.

DEATHS.

December 14, at the residence of his son, Plymouth-grove, Manchester, M. S. SALOMONS, Esq., formerly of London, aged ninety-three.

December 15, at Cottingham, near Hull, much respected, JOHN WILLIAM HENTIG, Esq., for upwards of forty years Consul at the port of Hull for their Majesties the Kings of Prussia, aged ninety-four.

December 17, at Sherborne, Dorsetshire, GRACE DOWNING, second daughter of the late SAMUEL SCOTT, Esq.

December 18, at Kingston-on-Thames, Mr. JOHN RUFF, for many years deacon of the Baptist Church in that town, in his seventy-ninth year. His end was peace.

December 22, at Warminster, ELIZABETH, wife of Mr. HUGH CARSON, ironfounder, aged sixty-three.

December 26, Mrs. ELIZABETH HARRILD, widow of the late ROBERT HARRILD, Esq., of Farringdon-street, City, and Round-hill, Sydenham, Kent, in the seventy-fourth year of her age, after a short illness, having survived her husband five months. Her end was peace.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The increasing probability of a war with Russia and the report of the entry of the combined squadron into the Black Sea, caused a considerable fall in Consols towards the end of last week. On Saturday there was a further fall. Monday was observed as a close holiday at the Stock-Exchange as well as elsewhere. To-day the market opened quiet and subsequently improved.

The Bank returns of last week present several favourable features; the stock of bullion shows an increase of nearly 102,000*l.* There is a decrease in the amount both of the private securities and the notes in circulation, while the unemployed reserve denotes an increase of half a million.

The specie movements of the week have again been heavy. The arrivals have consisted of about 660,000*l.* in gold from New York, Australia, &c., and the exports are estimated at about 400,000*l.*, of which a large proportion was silver for the East.

Foreign Shares have been firmer, but inactive. To-day there were not half a dozen transactions in Foreign Securities. Mexican was dealt in at 24½ 24½. Peruvian Four-and-a-half Bonds at 68½, or about one per cent. lower. Portuguese Four per Cents, 43. Dutch Four, 90.

The business in Railway Shares has also, for the most part, been inconsiderable, but to-day there is a revival. The market has improved, and there have been very active transactions in several of the leading stocks. Caledonians from 55½ to 56½; Great Northern, at 84½; Lancashire and Yorkshire has gone up to 67½; North-Westerns, 104 to 104½; Midlands, 68½; South-Westerns, 77½ 78; North British, 31½ to 30½; South-Easterns, 62½ and 62; Belgian Shares keep steady in price; Luxembourg (15*l.*) Shares, 11½; ditto, 10*l.*, 7½; Antwerp and Rotterdam (6*l.* paid) Shares, 4; Sambre and Meuse, 9; French Shares were 7*s.* 6*d.* higher; Great Western of Canada Shares, 1*l.* dis.; East Indian, 4*l.* prem.

In Goldmine Shares and Banks little doing. Miscellaneous shares generally were lower. Australian Agricultural dropped to 44½. Crystal Palace dull, 13, 1½ prem. South Australian Land Company, 1*l.* lower.

The railway calls for January, 1854, amount to 1,456,156. The bulk of the calls are still on account of foreign companies. In January, 1853, the total calls, were 1,241,760.

The commercial advices from the United States to-day are exceedingly satisfactory.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	shut	shut	shut	94½	94½	94½
Cons. for Acct.	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3 per Cent. Red.	95 4½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
New 3½ per Ct.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
Annuitants...	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
India Stock ..	219 20	219	219	219	219	219
Bank Stock ..	2 pm.	6 pm.	6 pm.	6 pm.	6 pm.	6 pm.
Excheq. Bills	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Annuitants	—	—	—	—	—	—

Markets.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE.

MONDAY.—This day was kept as a close holiday, and the Corn Exchange was not opened for business. Trade at the end of the week was very buoyant, every article having well maintained last Monday's advance; and fine barley commanded rather more money. The arrivals of English grain were very moderate, those of Irish oats very good, with liberal imports of foreign grain and flour. The weather was variable, with one or two wet days, but during the past two nights a sharp frost has been experienced, with a shift of wind this morning to the westward.

CURRENT PRICES OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

	Per Imp. Qr.	s.	d.	s.	d.			
Wheat, Essex, Kent, and Suffolk red, New	59	71	Old ..	64	74			
" Ditto ditto .. ditto white, ditto	61	68	Ditto ..	73	80			
" Norfolk and Lincoln .. ditto	62	72	White ..	70	84			
" Cambridgeshire .. ditto, ditto	54	66	Ditto ..	58	68			
" Irish ditto, ditto	0	0	Ditto ..	0	0			
Rye, old 0	0	New ..	42	46	Blank ..	40	42	
Barley, grinding .. 29	33	Distilling ..	30	33	Malt ..	40	44	
Malt, brown .. 49	54	Pale ..	62	61	Ware ..	59	70	
Beans, tick new & old	43	53	Harrow ..	45	53	Pigeon ..	44	54
" Long-pods .. 58	62	Windsors ..	56	66	Green ..	60	66	
Fava, grey .. 39	42	Maple ..	41	44	White ..	60	62	
Oats, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, feed	34	28	Poland ..	29	31			
" Scotch (Angus)	25	29	Potato ..	29	33			
" Irish, white	25	30	Black ..	24	29			

	Per 280 lb.	Per 280 lb.
Town-made Flour ..	65	70
Essex and Kent ..	58	63
Norfolk and Stockton ..	56	58
Irish	0	0

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

FOR THE LAST SIX WEEKS.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
WEEK ENDING—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 12	73	7	43	2	25	5
Nov. 19	72	7	43	3	26	0
Nov. 26	72	0	41	9	26	0
Dec. 3	72	7	40	9	26	3
Dec. 10	71	11	39	9	25	4
Dec. 17	70	9	38	9	24	11
Six weeks ..	72	3	40	11	25	8
Last year ..	41	3	30	1	18	6
Duties	1	0	1	0	1	0

COMPARATIVE PRICES AND QUANTITIES OF GRAIN.

	AVERAGES FROM LAST FRIDAY	AVERAGES FROM THE CORRESPONDING
	Evening's Gazette.	Gazette in 1852
	Qrs. s. d.	Qrs. s. d.
Wheat ..	55,349 70 9	121,850 43 10
Barley ..	97,814 38 9	116,239 29 9
Oats ..	21,504 24 11	30,351 18 5
Rye ..	160 44 7	153 29 2
Beans ..	5,185 48 10	6,151 34 6
Peas ..	2,046 51 10	2,503 32 0

PRICE OF BREAD.

The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d to 11½d; of household ditto, 8½d to 10d per 4lb loaf.

PRICE OF SEEDS, &c.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Turnip, white, new, per bush.	18 0 21 0
Do Swede	19 0 21 0
Mustard, Brown, old	10 0 13 0
— White new	14 0 16 0
Tares new winter	7 6 8 0
Spring	0 0 0 0
Canary new, per qr.	60 0 65 0
Linseed Foin	36 0 38 0
Rye Grass	28 0 35 0
Ditto Italian	34 0 36 0
Rape Cakes, per ton 61 15s 7d 5s	
Rapeseed, per last 301 0s 34 10s	
Clover, Red Eng. cwt. 44 0 64 1	
— White	52 0 65 2
— Foreign Red	42 0 62 5
— White	50 0 64 0
Trefol	17 0 22 0
Caraway	42 0 48 0
Coriander old	10 0 15 0
Hempseed, per qr.	33 0 38 0
Linseed, Crushing	52 0 56 0
— Sowing	58 0 60 0
English, per ton 101 0s 101 5s	
Foreign, per ton 91 0s 117 10s	

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

MONDAY.—Last week's imports of foreign stock into London were seasonably good, the total arrival amounting to 5,165 head. The supply of foreign stock on offer in to-day's market was seasonably good, but in very middling condition. Fresh up from our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts were small. For a holiday market the attendance of buyers was tolerably good. The few prime Scots, &c. exhibited, moved off steadily, and in some instances prices were the turn in favour of the salesmen. In other breeds of beasts only a limited business was transacted on former terms. The fresh arrivals were 400 shorthorns from Lincolnshire, and 160 Scots from Scotland. We were very scantily supplied with all breeds of sheep. Downs commanded a steady, though by no means active inquiry, at full currencies. Otherwise, the mutton trade was in a sluggish state, on former terms. Prime small calves moved off steadily, at full prices. Inferior calves sold at Friday's decline. The pork trade was firm. In prices no change took place.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts. 3 2 to 3 4	Fr. coarse woolled 4 6 to 4 10
Second quality	3 6 to 3 10
Prime large oxen	4 0 to 4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 0 to 4 10
Coarse inf. sheep	3 0 to 3 4
Second quality	3 6 to 4 4
Neat am. porkers 4 2 to 4 10	
Suckling calves, 22s to 28s; Quarter-old store-plgs, 21s to 26s each.	

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.

MONDAY.—Since our last report, immense supplies of meat have changed hands, and prices have been well supported. To-day we were scantily supplied, and only a limited business was transacted, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. mutton	3s 2d to 3s 4d
Middling ditto	3s 4d to 3s 6d
Prime ditto	3s 6d to 3s 8d
Do. small do.	3s 4d to 3s 6d
Large pork	3s 4d to 3s 6d

PROVISION MARKET.

MONDAY.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 4,318 firkins butter, and 461 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,773 casks butter, and 34 bales bacon. In the Irish butter market we have no material alteration to notice during the past week; rather more business was transacted, but chiefly in the finer sorts, which sold at full rates; middling and inferior descriptions were sold on rather easier terms. Foreign advanced about 2s for the best. The bacon market ruled very firm; the quantity offering for sale was but limited, owing to the non-arrival of the Waterford steamer; prices range from 56s to 60s, according to quality, &c.

COLONIAL MARKETS.—TUESDAY, DEC. 27.

To-day, as customary, there has not been a public sale, and the private contra-t markets, with the exception of coffee, have been neglected in consequence of this being considered a holiday.

COFFEE.—About 2,000 bags Native Ceylon have been sold at 49s 6d to 50s.

TALLOW steady, 56s 6d; town, 56s 6d; rough fat, 3s 2d; arrived during the week 464 casks, delivered 2,389 casks; the present stock on hand is 44,303 casks. At the same period last year it was 48,322 casks.

SUGAR.—There has been a very large amount of business done in this article during the year, as during the last six months a vast number of floating cargoes of Havannah and Brazil have been sold in this market, the exporters finding it to be profitable to order vessels to touch at England for orders or sale, and the reduction on the duty has enabled both refiners and grocers to buy this description, and exporters have also found it convenient to buy foreign. The fluctuation in prices has not exceeded 2s during the year, and the closing price is about the same as at this period last year. The average gazetted prices of British production, 11th January, 1853, 26s 2d; February 1, 25s 6d; March 1, 25s 7½d; April 5, 26s 10½d; May 3, 24s; June 7, 25s 1½d; July 5, 24s 6½d; August 2, 24s 7½d; September 6, 25s 1½d; October 4, 23s 7½d; November 1, 23s 6½d; December 6, 24s 4½d. The importation of sugar of all kinds has been 370,000 tons against 360,730 in 1852. The deliveries for home consumption was 375,000 tons against 360,180 tons in 1852. The deliveries for exportation were 27,000 tons against 32,000 tons in 1852. The present stock on hand is 99,000 tons against 117,000 tons in 1852.

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKETS.

MONDAY.—During the past week, owing to contrary winds, there have been few arrivals coastwise, and salesmen have been enabled to effect a clearance of old stock. The following are this day's quotations:—York regents, 120s to 160s; East Lothian ditto, 120s to 150s; ditto reds, 120 to 130s; Forfarshire regents, 110s to 120s; Perthshire ditto, 110s to 120s; Fifeshire ditto, 110s to 120s; reds and cups, 90s to 110s; Rhenish, 100s to 110s; Norway and Swedish, 60s to 70s.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

MONDAY.—There has been rather more inquiry during the past week for hops, especially for those of cheaper quality; but in other descriptions the trade remains unaltered.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
New Mid and East Kent pockets	14 0 to 17 17
Woad of Kent	10 0 to 12 12
Sussex	10 0 to 12 0
Foreign	7 0 to 9 0

THE TALLOW TRADE.

SATURDAY.—Our market has ruled very firm this week on higher terms. F. Y. C. on the spot has sold at 58s 3d; for January to March, 58s 6d per cwt. Town tallow, 56s 6d net cash.

PRICES OF SOAP.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Yellow soap	36 0 to 46 0
Mottled do	44 0 to 50 0
Curd do	52 0 to 58 0
Tallow greaves, 18s; and good dregs, 8s 0d per cwt; rough fat average 3s 1d per 5lbs.	
Town tallow	57 6 to 0 0
Melted stuff	42 6 to 0 0
Rough do	28 0 to 0 0

LONDON WOOL MARKET.

MONDAY.—Although the supply of English wool on offer is very moderate, we have no improvement to notice in the demand. Prices, however, continue to be well supported. The purchases for shipment to the Continent have been trifling. Foreign continues in good request, and there is a general tendency for higher prices, which have already been paid in many cases. The imports of wool into London last week were very limited, comprising 102 bales from the Cape of Good Hope, 66 from Australia, 65 from Monte Video, 70 from Bombay, 63 from Denmark, and 27 from Italy.

BUTTER, CHEESE, BACON, AND HAM.

IRISH BUTTER.	s. d.	Prime Mess	s. d.
Carlow per cwt.	100 102	New	85 0
Glennel	94 98	Bacon Mess	84 90
Cork	94 98	Inferior Qualities	70 80
Limerick	90 94	Scotch, small	0 0
Waterford	94 98	Second sizes	0 0
Dublin	92 96	American	0 0
English—Dorset fine. 106 114			
CHEESE.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cheshire	60 76	Derby	62 68
Double Wiltshire	48 70	Thin ditto	44 66
Berkeley	58 62	BACON—Waterford	58 60
Limerick	56 58	Limerick	58 58
HAMS—York	88 98	Cumberland	86 94
Irish	80 86	American	0 0
New	150 0		

LEATHER (per lb.).

s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Crop hides, 30 40lb	12 13	German Horse Hides	9 13
Ditto, 40 50lb	12 15	Spanish Horse Hides	6 13
Ditto, 50 60lb	13 15	Calf Skins, (30 40lb dox)	14 19
Bull Hides	12 14	Ditto, 40 50lb	15 20
Vitriol Butts	0 0	Ditto, 50 60lb	16 20
English Butts	14 17	Ditto, 70 100lb	16 20
Foreign Butts	15 18	Large Seal Skins	0 0
Foreign Hides	12 15	Ditto Small	0 0
Dressing Hides	13 16	Kips	8 18
Ditto Shaved	14 16	Balls	9 11
Best Saddlers' Hides	16 18	Bellies	9 11
English Horse Hides	9 11	Shoulders	12 14

OILS.

Linseed, 29s 6d per cwt.; Rapeseed, English refined 44s to 46s 6d; do foreign, 40s; Gallipoli, per ton, 57l to 66l; Spanish 60l to 63l; Sperma, 87l to 89l; do bagged, 87l; South Sea, 39l to 42l; Seal, pale, 40l to 42l; do coloured, 38l to 38l; Cod, 36l to 37l; Cocoa nut 21s to 21s 6d; Palm, 17l to 17s 6d to 21l to 21s 9d.

HAY MARKETS.

SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 110s 112s, inferior 80s 90s, superior clover 124s 126s, inferior 95s 100s, straw 32s 42s per load of 36 trusses.

REGENT'S-PARK.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 112s 114s, inferior 80s 90s, superior clover 118s 120s, inferior 95s 100s, straw 34s 44s per load of 36 trusses.

PORTMAN.—New meadow hay 75s 80s, inferior 65s 70s old 100s 105s, new clover 95s 100s, inferior 80s 90s, old 110s 115s wheat straw 36s 40s per load of 36 trusses.

SUGAR, COFFEE, COCOA, SPICE.

SUGAR.	s. d.	s. d.	COCOA.	s. d.	s. d.
Lumps (brown)	44 0	43 6	Trinidad	31 0	38 0
Grocery	44 6	47 6	Grenada	28 0	36 0
Molasses	17 0	18 0	St Lucia	28 0	31 0
Jamaica (fine)	17 6	18 6	Bahia	27 0	0 0
Demerara (fine)	17 0	18 0	SPICES.	s. d.	s. d.
Cinnamon (per lb)	1 0	2 3	Cloves (Amboyne)	0 7	0 8
Ditto (Bourbon)	0 6	0 6	Ditto (Bourbon)	0 6	0 6
Mace	2 4	3 2	Nutmegs	2 0	4 10
Nutmegs	2 0	4 10	Pepper (Cayenne)	0 8	1 6
Good Good Mid. 62 0	70 0		Pimento (Jam)	0 6	0 6
Good and fine ord. 45 6	55 0		Ginger (J.) white	40 0	85 0
Ord and Broken 37 0	46 0		Fine large	95 0	230 0
Dominica, Mid. 54 0	60 0		Barbadoes	40 0	100 0
Gd. ord to low mid 47 0	53 0		East India	24 0	56 0
St. Domingo	42 0	45 0			
Mocha	60 0	95 0			

COAL MARKET.—FRIDAY.

(PRICE OF COALS PER TON AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET.)	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Buddle's West Hartley	26 6	Heugh Hall	0 0
Burnhope	0 0	Killingworth East	36 6
Carr's Hartley	0 0	Lambton	35 0
Cookson's Hartley	0 0	Lawson	0 0
Davison's Hartley	0 0	Lumley	34 0
Holywell	30 0	Pensley	34 0
Tanfield Moor	0 0	Ramsay's Canal	0 0
Walls End	34 0	Richmond	0 0
Belmont	34 0	Stewart's	35 0
Cowpen	0 0	Hartlepool	0 0
Eden Main	0 0	Kelloe	35 0
Haswell	35 3	Tees	0 0
South Hartlepool	0 0	Whitwell	32 6
Ships at market	28		
Sold	24		

The market was closed on Monday.

The Gazette.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23.

ROBERT MOONEY, Pleasant-row, Holloway-road, and Croyley-street, Hoxton New-town, tea dealer. Sol., Mr. Hare, South-square, Gray's Inn.

JOHN SMITH, Brighton, Sussex, and King-street, City, stationer. Sol., Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane, Bucklersbury.

WILLIAM HARKNETT, Barking, Essex, builder. Sol., Mr. Hewitt, Nicholas-lane, City.

RICHARD WILLIAM SPENDELOW, Market Drayton, Shropshire, chemist. Sol., Mr. Warren, Market Drayton; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

JOSEPH WATSON, Liverpool, broker. Sol., Mr. Cross, Liverpool.

ROBERT ALFRED DORRINGTON, Manchester, woollen cloth merchant. Sol., Mr. Clarke, Leeds; and Mr. Taylor, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 17, J. P. E., and H. Kennington, W. Styan, and D. Adams, London, bankers—Jan. 13, W. Thomas, Catherine-street, Strand, publisher—Jan. 13, R. Jewesson, Great Winchester-street, City, merchant—Jan. 13, M. Pothecary, Martin, Wiltshire, sheep salesman—Jan. 13, T. Brooks, Hoxton Old-town, baker—Jan. 13, J. Marshall, Southampton, coal merchant—Jan. 13, H. J. White, Waterloo-road, straw bonnet dealer—Jan. 20, J. H. Arnold, Clement's-lane, City, ship and insurance broker—Jan. 20, R. Gordon, Orchard House, Poplar, cooper—Jan. 20, J. B. Gordon, Orchard House, Poplar, cooper—Jan. 20, C. F. Oppenheim, George-street, City, shipowner—Jan. 17, M. Fowler, Bushy, Hertfordshire, cattle dealer—Jan. 17, T. P. Willis, Portsea, Hampshire, trader—Jan. 13, J. C. Fawcett, York, draper—Jan. 16, B. C. Seley, North Walsam, Norfolk, money scrivener—Jan. 13, J. Fuller, City-road, Finsbury, glass merchant—Jan. 13, C. Wrightson, High-street, Marylebone, grocer—Jan. 13, G. Gillard, New-street, Covent-garden, boot and shoe salesman—Jan. 14, W. Howling, Basing, Hampshire, miller—Jan. 14, W. G. Edgill, High-street, Southwark, chinaman—Jan. 14, R. Tansett, Woolwich and Plumstead, Kent, builder—Jan. 16, R. Johnson, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturer—Jan. 16, J. Fish, Helmsdale, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—Jan. 19, F. Rave, and G. W. Mortimer, Bury, Lancashire, silk dyers—Jan. 20, M. Wood and J. Wilding, Openshaw, Lancashire, boiler makers—Jan. 13, M. Davison, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, draper.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Mary Ann Keeler, Maria Louisa and Marian Wagner, Gloucester-street, Bloomsbury, fancy work manufacturers—Elizabeth Humby and S. Haton, West Harnham, Wiltshire, farmers—H. Evans and J. Hill, Holywell-row, Shoreditch, screw jack makers—M. L. S., and H. Levy, New York—G. A. Osborne and T. P. Tyas,

Jewin-street, City, Manchester, and Paris, artificial flower manufacturers—C. Hanslip, W. T. Manning, and J. Conworth, solicitors; as far as regards W. T. Manning—C. and G. Phillpotts, Bristol, biscuit bakers—J. Simmons and T. Wilson, Barnsley, Yorkshire, ironfounders—S. T., and E. M. Kesteven, Milk-street, City; as far as regards T. Kesteven—Rodocanachi, Sons, and Co., London, Marcellies, Lehigh, Odessa, St. Petersburg, Taganrog, and Constantinople; as far as regards Emmanuel Paul and Emmanuel Pandell Rodocanachi—D. M. Aird and J. Hutton, Fleet-street and Strand, printers—Elizabeth and J. Brass, Islington-green, carpet warehousemen—E. J. Jeffs, F. M. Bruggemeyer, and J. D. Kennedy, Aldermanbury, millinery warehousemen; as far as regards J. D. Kennedy—R. C. and J. Drummond, Tavistock-place, St. Pancras, and Lambeth-walk, Lambeth, licensed victuallers—J. Dolan and B. Dromgrove, Warrington, Lancashire, drapers—H. Hughes and G. Harkes, Grey's-terrace, Southwark, engineers—H. S. Illingworth and G. A. Edman, Arlington-street, Piccadilly, surgeons—G. M. and J. W. Tracy, Acacia-road, St. John's-wood, surgeons—H. and G. H. Stone, Middleton-street, Clerkenwell, jewellers—H. Reed and J. Street, Bristol, booksellers—A. and J. Heald, Liverpool, pawnbrokers—Elizabeth and R. N. Owst and J. Peacock, Bermondsey-wall, coopers; as far as regards Elizabeth Owst—R. Harcourt, sen., C. G. Stevens, and R. Harcourt, jun., Holborn-street, Launceston, and Melbourne; as far as regards C. G. Stevens—G. May, R. V. Thurnburn, C. H. Pickford, and J. A. Mathewson, London; as far as regards R. V. Thurnburn.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27.

BANKRUPTS.

JOHN SMITH, Brighton, and King-street, Snow-hill, stationer. Sol., Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane, Bucklersbury.

JOHN GREEN, Portsea, draper. Sol., Messrs. Sole, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury.

WILLIAM HONEY, Gillingham, Kent, builder. Sol., Mr. Mr. Stophor, Cheapside.

DUNCAN JENKINS, Mile-end-road, licensed victualler. Sol., Messrs. Dimmock and Burbey, Suffolk-lane, Cannon-street.

JOHN DENT, Homerton, carpenter. Sol., Messrs. Hilleary, Fenchurch-street.

JAMES TURNER, High-street, Whitechapel, and John's-row, St. Luke's, cheesemonger. Sol., Messrs. Ashurst and Sons, Old Jewry.

WILLIAM BOWER, Pickering, Yorkshire, tailor. Sol., Mr. Noble, York; and Mr. Clarke, Leeds.

HENRY DAWBER, Lincoln, butcher. Sol., Mr. Chambers, Lincoln.

THOMAS WILKINSON, Openshaw, Lancashire, builder. Sol., Messrs. Hall and Taylor, Staleybridge; and Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

THOMAS HENDERSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, draper. Sol., Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; and Messrs. Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 18, G. Potter, Pimlico, and Wouldham and Burnham, Kent, lime burner—Jan. 19, J. Hogan, Milford Haven, shipwright—Jan. 19, E. Emerson, Stella, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironfounder—Jan. 19, J. Thompson, Alton, Cumberland, common brewer—Jan. 17, E. Hollinworth, Mottram-in-Longendale, Cheshire, woollen manufacturer—Jan. 23, J. Dicken, Hodnet, Shropshire, woolstapler.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED

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Bank of England.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the Week ending on Saturday, the 17th day of December, 1853.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.			
Notes issued	£28,729,730	Government Debt.....	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,584,500
		Gold Coin & Bullion ..	14,729,730
		Silver Bullion.....	—
	<hr/> £28,729,730		<hr/> £28,729,730

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- INDEX TO VOL. III. INTELLIGENCE, ETC.

Will commence on the 1st of January next, the Fourth Volume of the "MONTHLY CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR."

The "CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR" was established in January, 1851, to meet what was then deemed a "long and deeply-felt want" in the Nonconformist body—a religious magazine, based upon Evangelical principles, of independent tone, and unsectarian character; liberal in spirit, catholic in feeling, and of high literary merit. Such it has been sought, with the aid of numerous and able contributors to render it; and as such it will be the endeavour of the Editor to maintain it.

The "CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR" is connected with no school or section of Dissent, but, firmly believing in the sinfulness, injustice, and inexpediency, of all State-establishments of religion, it renders its constant aid to the present widely-extending movement for the liberation of religion from State patronage and control. It advocates the principle of Voluntary Education; and believing that Christianity approves only of certain principles of government and order, is devoted to the cause of Social amelioration and Political Reform. The general contents of the Magazine consist of articles on Practical Religion—on Biblical Literature—on the Evidences and Influence of Christianity—on Special Ecclesiastical, and Social topics on Ecclesiastical History and Biography—Sketches of Character—Reviews of Current Works in General Literature—Poetry—Select Intelligence—and a Monthly Political and General Retrospect. A distinct department is devoted to the Young, and all the details of the Magazine are carefully adjusted to meet the wants and the taste of intelligent Christian households.

Since its establishment the "CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR" has contained articles from the following, amongst other contributors:—

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Some changes will be made in the Magazine in the forthcoming volume, intended to adapt it to increased usefulness, and to a larger circle of readers. Amongst these will be

A MONTHLY REPORT ON CHRISTIAN MISSIONS,

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AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGIOUS TRUTH.

The Selection will be made by the Editor and several contributors, and will, it is hoped, add much to the interest and practical utility of the Magazine.

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So that while it may serve as an index of general religious sentiment and feeling, it may also contribute of its power as a Monitor and Homilist against the practical atheism of the world, and the corrupt or ignorant sinfulness of the Church—in a word, be a guide to Heart, as well as Intellectual, Religion.

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